Amusements.

ROBINSON & HOWE'S CHAMPION CIRCUS, CHAMPION CIRCUS, WASHINGTON STREET, Opposite the Court House. THREE SHOWS ON CHRISTMAS. CHRISTMAS DAY. Three Exhibitions. MORNING, AFTERNOON AND NIGHT. ROBINSON, THE CHAMPION. The Best Rider in the World. LE PETITE ANGELO, THE INFANT HERO OF ZAMPILÆROSTATION. MISS LIZZIE DONALDSON. CASTILLO, DAVENPORT, AYMAR. 25 Riders, Vaulters and Gymnasts. IN 15 DIFFERENT ACTS. JACK, THE GIANT KILLER. From Christmas to New Year, PERFORMANCES, PERFORMANCES, Every Afternoon, Every Night. No Extra Charge for Reserved Seats.

McVICKER'S THEATRE. Last week of the renowned artiste, SENORITA ISABEL CUBAS. Grand Ballet and Dramatic Night. WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. [illegible]. YOATIA. To conclude with the interesting Drama of the WIZARD SKIFF. [illegible]

BRYAN HALL. The Old Folks, The Old Folks. This Tuesday Evening, Dec. 22d, and Every Evening During the Week. THE ORIGINAL FATHER KEMP, With his celebrated Old Folks' Concert Company. Instrumental Performers and Vocalists. MR. WILLIAM HAYWARD AND MR. W. WHITE. ADMISSION 25 CENTS.

VARIETIES. 115 & 117 Dearborn street. C. M. CHADWICK, Sole Lessee and Proprietor. Grand Holiday Entertainment. MATINEE FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN. CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON. SCALE OF PRICES. [illegible]

NEW OPERA HOUSE, WASHINGTON street, between Clark and Dearborn. ARLINGTON, KELLY, LEON & DONNIKER'S MINSTRELS. [illegible]

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION. TOM HOOD, "The Humorist and Humanitarian." LECTURE BY PROF. W. C. RICHARDS, OF PROVIDENCE. At Metropolitan Hall, Saturday Evening, Dec. [illegible]

CENTRAL SKATING PARK. NOW OPEN. PIONEER OF THE WEST. Season Tickets can be had at the following places: [illegible] PRICES OF SEASON TICKETS. [illegible]

WASHINGTON SKATING PARK. Open this Thursday Evening. ICE IN GOOD CONDITION. Music Every Evening. Season Tickets can be obtained at the following places: [illegible] And at the Park. PRICES OF SEASON TICKETS. [illegible] Christmas Evening, Dec. 25th, a WINTER FESTIVAL by MOONLIGHT is proposed—a CARNIVAL. [illegible]

ARTISTS' UNION DRAWING. 44 PRIZES, WORTH $3,200. Headed with those two splendid works of art, "THE INDIAN'S LAST VIEW," BY H. C. FORD, Esq., and "THE MOUNTAIN STREAM," BY F. FISHER BURR, Esq. 48 OTHER PAINTINGS. Tickets only $2.50 Each. [illegible]

BRYAN HALL. GOTTSCHALK AND BRIGNOLI. Two Grand Combination Performances. [illegible]

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VOLUME XVII. CHICAGO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1863. NUMBER 167.

Chicago Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1863.

"Can the sea give up its dead?" Let no one ask or marvel more. Here is the defunct grave-digger of the Chickahominy turning up again, and now formally as the candidate of the National Conservatives, we think they call themselves. "Would a duck swim?" And will he not come at such bidding? Of course there will be a letter from Little Mac gracefully offering to take the lead of that army. When we sadly remember that nothing under his leadership ever came to anything but grief, we look upon it as a conservative order for a coffin; a dismal fate bespoken; drawing on grim Death at sight. These Conservatives met, thirteen strong, at Rochester, some months ago, succeeded more recently in doubling that number at Cincinnati, and now at Philadelphia, in some upper room at the Continental, have made a nomination. The half feathered chick has crept out of its shell in the midst of winter. Long before the other brood of Presidential candidates are brought out the stick-in-the-mud chieftain will have passed out of sight.

Secretary Welles and the "iron jobbers," as poor Miles O'Reilly would call them, are still working well together, apparently with the sole purpose of justifying, by appropriating in advance, the extravagant sum called for by the naval estimates for the coming year. The latest proposed issue are the two monstrous marine schemes referred to elsewhere in our Washington dispatch. Why not contract with these hungry fellows to iron-plate the whole coast at once and have done with it. A solid slice of sea beach covered with mail stands about an equal chance with Secretary Welles's fastest craft in catching pirates and blockade runners.

The Bostonians have realized the splendid sum of $140,000 by their Sanitary Fair, a splendid sum, greatly increased by the permit issued by the Secretary of the Treasury to import articles for sale free of duty.

There was a fresh scare in New York yesterday, and, among other effects, gold went up to 152 1-2, at the intelligence that Lee was *en route* for Washington. Gold fell off again as soon as the story proved to be bogus.

It is not the first time that our special dispatches have contained private statements of fact similar to that we elsewhere give in our DesMoines dispatch, calculated to throw some light on the *enterprise* of the secesh organ of this city. It is very rare indeed that our dispatches suit their columns without alterations, but your coat thief cannot always be sure of a fit, in selecting his stolen garment. The *Times* is skillful from long and frequent practice in making over such news, and does not stick at length (when it costs them nothing.) Less than a month ago it published a stolen Washington dispatch of ours of fifteen hundred words, ingeniously piecing in enough secesh doctrine to make it palatable to its readers. A sheet that has neither honesty nor loyalty cannot be trusted to return dispatches that by mistakes of delivery fall into their hands. Our only remedy will be secured by the exercise of more care in those in charge of such matters at the telegraph office.

It is reported that Newton has raised her full quota (?) from the contrabands near Fortress Monroe, and that they will be sent to South Carolina as recruits for the 54th and 55th regiments. It is stated that the Secretary of War will sanction [illegible]

That is to say, a special agent sent from the Massachusetts town above named, went down to the very point where the men were to be used, and picked up the required number on the spot, securing stout, brawny fellows, used to the climate, posted in the habits of the secesh, with no great affection for the rebels (notwithstanding kinship on the side of the sires.) These black substitutes will fight, and fight well. Each of them can handle a musket and will make a capital soldier. The Secretary of War will sanction the movement, and the people will indorse his sanction. Wanted—men to kill rebels, to crush the rebellion. Let black substitutes be everywhere allowed in all cases where offered, to the increasing of the dread that has fallen upon the rebels.

THE WAR IN ARKANSAS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CAIRO, Dec. 24, 1863.

At a mass meeting of the "unconditional Union" men of Western Arkansas, held at Fort Smith on the 30th of October, 1863, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we are in favor of prosecuting the war so long as there is a rebel found in arms against the United States.

Resolved, That we will, to the full extent of our abilities, support the Administration in all of its measures, past and present, to suppress the existing rebellion.

Resolved, That we recommend that delegates be chosen to a State Convention, to be holden at Little Rock, for the purpose of re-organizing the State Government.

And Whereas, The institution of Slavery is an incubus upon the welfare and material interests of the State, therefore be it

Resolved, That Arkansas should take her place in the Union as a free State, and that all laws tending to establish or perpetuate the institution of slavery should be abolished.

Resolved, That none but "unconditional Union" men, known to be such, be allowed to vote at any election; and that we recommend the establishment of Union associations in every county of our State.

Resolved, That we will co-operate with all unconditional Union men in the establishment of law and order in the State of Arkansas.

Resolved, That the people of the different counties of our State be cordially invited to co-operate with us, and to adopt similar resolutions.

Resolved, That the voting at the coming election be done viva voce.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Dec. 23.—Col. Williams, now operating at Roseville, Ark., has secured for the Government, baled and in process of ginning, some 500 bales of rebel cotton. He has within reach of his camp 100,000 bushels of corn, and is gathering thousands of bushels daily. He can put up—if salt can be procured—500,000 pounds of pork—all being done by one regiment, with the assistance of one extra train, besides running two mills and hunting bushwhackers generally. Several of whom have been captured.

FROM CHARLESTON.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The United States steam transport Star of the South, from Hilton Head 21st inst., arrived last evening. The report of the United States frigate Ironsides and monitors being entangled in obstructions in Charleston harbor, is untrue.

The monitor Lehigh, while on picket duty near Fort Johnson, got aground. The rebel battery opened on her, doing her considerable damage, when two other iron-clads went to her assistance, and succeeded in getting her off. The Lehigh was so badly damaged by the fire of the rebel battery that the Star of the South had to tow her to Hilton Head for repairs. No one on board was injured.

Gen. Gilmore is shelling Charleston daily from his 200-pounders.

Nothing of further importance had transpired.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—The report that the monitor Lehigh was badly damaged at Charleston, is incorrect. She got aground and sprung a leak. She was not injured at all by the rebel batteries.

FROM NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Post* says it is reported that five or six arrests have been made on board the steamer George Cromwell, bound from this port to New Orleans. Among the persons arrested was an individual of some prominence in this community. There have also been seizures of large quantities of arms, ammunition, &c. Details cannot now be made public, but a few days will develop some facts in relation to the recent order for searching vessels leaving this port.

Artillery Experiments.

WEST POINT, Dec. 24.—A great test with Parrott's projectiles to-day produced wonderful results. An iron target six to eight inches thick, backed with 18 inches of live oak, was perforated and set on fire by 3 shells containing one gallon of Greek fire each. The breaches made in the iron was 18 inches in diameter, and the wood bolts terribly shattered. The ignition was secured by impact [illegible] of the officer in charge. The [illegible]

FROM WASHINGTON—MATTERS CONGRESSIONAL AND MILITARY.

A Very Doubtful Rumor of Lee's Movement on Washington.

THE CIRCULAR FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL REGARDING BOUNTIES.

The Philadelphia Conservative Convention--Little Mac Put on the Track.

FROM CHARLESTON—LATEST FROM OUR IRON CLADS.

FROM CAIRO--THE WAR IN ARKANSAS--UNION TOKENS.

The Rebel Guerillas in the Southwest on the Move.

FROM DESMOINES—MATTERS IN IOWA.

CONCERNING BOUNTIES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1863.

The Adjutant General's office has telegraphed to all the army commanders that a law has been passed to the effect that no bounties except such as are now provided by law will be paid to any persons enlisted after the 5th day of January next. The only bounty provided by law is the one hundred dollars authorized by Sec. 5, of the Act of July, 1861. The commanding officers are accordingly required to secure all the enlistments of all the veteran volunteers possible before July 5, 1864, and give immediate publicity to the circular.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1863.

Gen. Thomas reports that he furnished Gen. Banks 17,000 well armed colored soldiers; that he has had 51,000 men, women and children under his protection, the able-bodied of whom he has hired out to planters in the vicinity of his operations; that he has leased the abandoned cotton and sugar plantations to farmers at the rate of forty dollars per bale of cotton, one cent per pound for sugar, four cents per bushel for corn and potatoes, which proceeds go into the treasury of the United States. The farmers pay the revenue tax in addition.

Great success has attended the arrangement, which has proved satisfactory to all parties.

Gen. Thomas returns to this field of labor quickly, thence he goes to New Orleans, and Texas, arming blacks everywhere. He has ten regiments of them ready to send to Grant.

The Schofield embroglio is becoming a source of much feeling among the friends of the Missouri Radicals. A Congressional Delegation from that State now state if Schofield is confirmed by the Senate it will be through the influence of President Lincoln, and will regard it as a declaration of war on his part, in which case they will assume the aggressive.

Those portions of Kentucky and Tennessee south of the Cumberland River, and between the roads leading from Carthage to Clinton, Tenn., and hence to a Point Isabel are erected into the Department of Middle Tenn., under the command of Gen. Jacob Ammen.

Dr. Aaron James, court martialed at Nashville, Tennessee, was found guilty of acting as a Captain of guerillas, having broken repeatedly his oath of allegiance, and for other rebel misdemeanors, was sentenced to be hung. The finding of the court has been disapproved of by the President, and the culprit was ordered to be set at liberty.

It has been ascertained that Cornwall's depredations amount to over $100,000, $35,000 of which he had invested in Government bonds. He has been sent to the old capitol, and will be handed over to the civil authorities. The Government will be a loser to a very small extent.

Wendell Phillips' attack on Mr. Chase, at the Cooper Institute, on Tuesday night, is known to be prompted less by a high attachment to the principles of liberty, than by a personal antipathy.

The War Department has decided to pay $300 bounty to the men enlisting in new regiments as well as to those enlisting in the old regiments.

Gov. Johnson, of Tenn., is expected here immediately, to confer with the President respecting the political affairs in that State, especially on the question of slavery.

Mr. Blow, of Mo., will introduce at an early day a bill in the House providing for emancipation throughout the United States, and a systematic management of the abandoned estates in the South.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—As the terms of the President's emancipation and amnesty proclamations do not in words include the Indian Territory, efforts are being made by the Indian Bureau to adjust the difficulties growing out of certain Indians having made common cause with the rebel government, and to base the settlement on the principles asserted in those proclamations.

Already the Creeks have negotiated a treaty with this Government, providing for the abolition of slavery among them as a condition of their being reinstated in the enjoyment of the benefits which they forfeited by their disloyalty, and similar treaties are contemplated with the Choctaws and Cherokees.

The latter, through their own council, have provided for freeing their slaves, but a stipulation to that end is required in the new treaty.

The Russian fleet has left here for Fortress Monroe, and will winter in the Roads.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The New York *Tribune's* Washington special telegraphs:

Information received here from London, by the last European steamer, states that all the rebel rams in England have been offered to the English Government at a certain price, and that Lord Clarence Paget, on the part of the English Admiralty, had written to the builder, stating that no decided answer could be given for the present, but the project was before their lordships for consideration.

Instructions have been sent from Secretary Welles to the commanding officers of the different navy yards to have a fleet of vessels ready to take their positions at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other important ports, for the purpose of carrying out the new regulation relative to passports of vessels and passengers.

It is rumored to-day at the War Department that Gen. Thomas Francis Meagher had been ordered to proceed to the quarters of the Corcoran Legion and take command of it. On the other hand, it is stated that most probably what remains of the Corcoran Legion will be added to the Irish Brigade.

Charles H. Cornwall, head of the Redemption Bureau in the Treasury Department, was to-day arrested for embezzling Government funds.

The Washington special to the New York *Times* last night, says:

The President sent in to the Senate the names of a lot of Major Generals made during the recess, and with them that of Gen. Schofield, but he is understood to earnestly commend the latter to Senators for the Middle Department, in place of Gen. Schenck. There is a growing feeling in the Senate that no more Major Generals or Brigadier Generals should be appointed who are not actually required for the needs of the army and the interests of the country.

The Navy Department is going to build four casemate steamships to carry four 20-inch guns—to be of wrought iron 450 feet long, 58 feet beam, 2,000 feet grate surface; four cylinders, 90 inches stroke; four feet two inches propellers; draft 19 feet; expected speed 18 knots. They will cost $5,000,000 each.

The *Herald's* Washington dispatch says:

It is expected that Arkansas will be represented, at an early day, in Congress. Arrangements are progressing in that State for an election, and there is reason to believe the State Government will be in operation there shortly.

Congress having failed to amend the Conscription act previous to the adjournment for the holidays, the draft will probably be postponed till February 1st, to give Congress time to amend the law, which will probably [illegible] time recruiting will be stimulated by bounties, etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—It is reported that Dr. Letterman, Chief Medical Inspector of the Army of the Potomac, has been relieved, and that the Medical Storekeepers at Cincinnati, Philadelphia, St. Louis, etc., have already been relieved, and that other changes will follow.

FROM ST. PAUL.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

ST. PAUL, Dec. 24, 1863.

Gov. Swift has received authority to apportion our quota by townships and wards. This will compel the copperhead towns, who have scarcely sent a man, to the work. Recruiting is progressing lively, and large town and county bounties are offered. All but the second ward in this city will be likely to fill their quotas by the 5th of January.

The War Department has refused to grant the request of the Governor to establish a Military Hospital at Winona, owing to its inaccessibility during the winter.

Cars on the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad will run to Omoka to-morrow, but the formal opening will not take place until next month.

We are enjoying excellent sleighing.

FROM DESMOINES.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

DESMOINES, Iowa, Dec. 24, 1863.

The Copperhead organ of this place publishes an editorial this morning, urging the faithful to band together in secret to overthrow the Union League. It says the League is very powerful, and there must be an organization to counteract its influence. As the League is patriotic and organized for the sole purpose of supporting the Government, attempts to counteract its influence bode no good. There is a wide-spread scheme throughout the North on foot to revive the Knights of the Golden Circle.

My dispatch to the TRIBUNE of last Monday appears in Tuesday morning's *Times* and not in the TRIBUNE. A half dozen other of my dispatches have never seen day-light, and dispatches very similar to them have appeared in the *Times*.

Volunteering took a fresh start on Monday morning, and at the present rate the quota of this city will be filled in a few weeks.

Merchants tell me that more goods have been retailed here this week than ever before in the same length of time. The retail and wholesale trade have been heavy during the season, and merchants wear smiling faces.

Rev. Darius E. Jones, General Agent of the Iowa Bible Society, reports that he has visited eighty-seven counties of this State within the last year and found [illegible] hundred ninety-nine families destitute of the Bible. *Almost without exception, these families are opposed to the Government.* The State census shows an increase of resident population in the State since the census of 1860 of over 37,000.

FROM SPRINGFIELD.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 24, 1863.

Gov. Yates and family arrived at their home in this city to-day, from Washington, in good health and fine spirits.

The counties in which the greatest deficiency appears are daily being brought to light. Adams, Madison and St. Clair are behind upon the present estimate at least one thousand each. Unless the quota is raised by the 5th of January the draft, I learn, will be ordered where the deficiency appears. Negotiations are now pending with Missouri and other States that may reduce the quota of these about one-half. Each county will have full credit for every man furnished, whether enlisted in this or other States. The copperhead papers, who desire to prevent the State from filling up its quota, are seeking to make the impression that the State quota is full, when the true state of the case is that there is still a large deficit from all sections of the State, which the most active exertions of every citizen during the next two weeks, can alone save us from the draft.

Col. John Williams, Treasurer of the State Sanitary Commission, received four hundred and sixty dollars to-day, from the Soldiers' Aid Society of Randolph county.

William L. Leonard has been appointed Surgeon of the 7th regiment, vice Metcalf, resigned.

FROM ST. LOUIS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24, 1863.

The threatened attack on Centreville, by the guerillas under Reeves, mentioned yesterday, was frustrated by reinforcements from Patterson, compelling Reeves to skedaddle back to Arkansas.

The iron clad steamer Shiloh and Eutaw are rapidly approaching completion at the levee.

The underwriters' prohibition of steamers leaving port during the present stage of water, causes more indignation than Chase's restrictions.

The steamer A. J. Sweeny left to-day for Cairo, at the risk of her owners. The negroes here intend celebrating New Year's Day as the first anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Memorials are being received by the radical candidates for Supreme Judge, urging them to contest conservatives' certificates of election, but nothing can be done till the vote is officially declared.

Recruiting is in rapid progress in Southwest Missouri.

FROM CINCINNATI.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24, 1863.

Major General W. T. Sherman, accompanied by one or two of his personal staff, arrived in this city to-day on a short leave of absence, to visit his family. He was serenaded to-night at the Burnet House, by the Newport Barracks Band. In response, he thanked those in attendance, and said he should soon return to the field. He spoke rather sharply of one of the Cincinnati papers, the *Commercial*, which he said had endeavored to malign him.

The receipts at the great fair were very large today—probably $30,000.

Brig. Gen. J. M. Shackleford is expected here to-morrow.

FROM NASHVILLE.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 24, 1863.

E. Wing, for many years at the head of the Nashville bar, and subsequently an active and influential orator in the rebellion, has written a letter to a relative in the city expressing a desire to return to his allegiance, under the President's proclamation, and advising all his friends to pursue the same course.

The enlistment of colored troops progresses rapidly.

An effort is being made for permission from the War Department to enlist colored batteries.

Christmas and the Telegraph.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The telegraph hours of the Chicago office on Christmas, 8 a. m. to 10 a. m.—4. p. m. to 7:30 p. m.

All officers and agents will not be away. Report to-morrow (Christmas night.) There may be some in the morning, which will be sent West, if interesting.

FROM CAIRO AND BELOW.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CAIRO, Dec. 24, 1863.

By the steamers J. D. Perry and City of Alton, we have Memphis dates to the evening of the 22d.

James P. H. Chapman, mate of the steamer Perry, was suddenly killed by the falling of a spar at the Memphis levee, on Tuesday evening last. He was a resident of Albion, Ill. Another man had his leg crushed, and three others were slightly injured by the same accident.

The steamer Sunshine took on board at Natchez the passengers of the steamer Vonphul wounded when she was fired upon at Point Coupee, two weeks since. Boyer was wounded in the knee by the fragment of a shell. Edwards had a twelve-pound shell pass between his thighs, and though the wound was very painful, it is not likely to prove mortal.

The Memphis *Bulletin* of the 22d has the following:

One of our best-known citizens, Dr. P. M. Dickinson, lately went down the river a short distance, for the purpose of transacting some business near Luna Landing, Ark., within the Federal lines. While stopping at the house of one Sanders, he was taken, in the [illegible] of Col. Bowie of Natchez, who was killed at Alamo, Texas—the man who gave the name to the formidable knife with which all are familiar. Bowie and his company took the Doctor to their camp, near Granville Parker's. They robbed him of everything he had, excepting some of his clothing he had upon his person, and taking some $400 in greenbacks, his watch, hat, cravat, shoes, blanket, saddle-bags with change of clothing, even to his tooth-brush and pipe.

He was taken by Bowie's men to Walworth's plantation, where he was found by two companies under Capts. Hawley and Burke. The latter had command of the battalion.

From the last camp they went to Monticello, Arkansas, where the Doctor was tried and discharged, as no definite charge could be sustained against him.

He was treated with the greatest courtesy and kindness after he fell into the hands of Burke. The other gentleman endeavored, as far as in his power, to rescue for him the different articles that had been pilfered by the needy wretches of Bowie's company.

The privates of his command were very poorly clad, and armed exclusively with double barrelled shot guns. Occasionally one was seen with a small Colt's revolver. None had sabres. There was great plentiness of food, such as it was.

In the country meat and flour are in abundance, but no groceries, salt being obtained in sufficient quantities from the springs on the Saline River.

He was ordered to be sent to Gen. Fagan, who commands the State troops, and had his headquarters at Camden, but it was ascertained that Fagan had moved to Fiolin, Dallas county, and was advancing on Little Rock, so he was not sent.

Anson's brigade was near Ellis, on the Saline River.

Gen. Holmes was about to be relieved by Gen. Leonidas Polk.

Kirby Smith is to take the field. He was at that time within fourteen miles of Camden, Miss. His headquarters, however, were at Washington, Hempsted county, on Red River. The doctor gathered from what he heard that the armies were advancing on Little Rock and Pine Bluff, but could not tell whether they intended to fight or whether it was a mere feint.

The doctor was released from confinement on Tuesday, the 15th, and arrived at home on Sunday the 20th. He took away with him a large sum of money, but he took the precaution to leave his belt containing it with a friend before he was captured. This sum he received on his return.

The Memphis *Journal* of the 22d, says: A [illegible] ville, in Haywood county, states that there are quite a number of the families of rebel soldiers in that neighborhood who must suffer if not relieved. Where relief can come from is more than any body is willing to say. The people are all placed upon an equality as regards supplies, notwithstanding the extreme destitution of the people. A force of rebel cavalry numbering 300 is stationed at that place, subsisting on scanty allowance of the inhabitants. The coolness with which these savage marauders divide the slim stores of the widow and orphan, is a sad commentary upon the degeneracy in Haywood and Madison counties.

The best families could not afford anything better than bread without salt, and pork partly preserved in the ashes.

Forrest is levying contributions, provisions and forage, from all parties in the country.

Barrel salt would easily command one hundred dollars in the city of Jackson. It will be entirely impossible for them to cure any bacon this season unless they can procure salt, which it is impossible to do.

A gentleman who resides near Mason's Depot, on the Memphis and Ohio Railroad, brings the gratifying intelligence that the guerillas under Marry F. Payne, who committed depredations in this and adjoining counties, gave up all hopes of crossing the Big Hatchie on Saturday last.

He learned from some source that the rumor published some days ago concerning the reported murder of Mr. James Cockrill is unfounded, and that Mr. Cockrill is still in the land of the living.

The gentleman referred to confirms the report of Mr. Priddy's capture. He was still held by them when they crossed the Hatchie. Mr. Priddy was formerly one of the editors of the Memphis *Argus*.

Little Rock news is up to the 12th inst., as follows: That Col. Merrill, who was sent some days ago in pursuit of a rebel force south, as sent in despatches last night, encountered the enemy 600 strong two miles beyond Princeton.

He killed eight, six of whom were by the sabre; wounded 18, took as prisoners 3 commissioned officers and 25 privates. The aggregate loss of the enemy was fifty.

A foraging party sent out by Gen. Davidson in rear of Merrill's advance, captured 140 beef cattle marked C. S.

The rebels were all driven beyond Ouachita. Merrill was within 14 miles of Camden in the pursuit. The Federal loss was one man badly wounded.

Gen. Holmes was ordered east of the Mississippi river.

Col. Clayton sends despatches from Pine Bluff announcing the capture near that place of one Lieutenant and seven men from Oteys' guerilla band.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

MEMPHIS, Dec. 22, via CAIRO, Dec. 24, 1863.

For some time past, there have been reports that guerillas were prowling about on the Arkansas shore. Last evening a report came that they had all left, and there were none to be found in that vicinity.

Some of the more knowing ones considered that this was only to blind the people, for the purpose of inducing some persons who have been threatened by the guerillas with summary vengeance to go over and thus fall into their power.

Among those who were objects of especial hatred to the guerillas was John Kelly, proprietor of the flatboat which has been employed for some time in the Arkansas trade, in connection with the steam ferry.

Mr. Kelly formerly lived in Hopefield, and was conscripted by the Confederates, and compelled to serve in their army. Not relishing such treatment he improved the first chance to desert, since which time he has rendered good service to the Unionists, thereby incurring the hatred of the guerillas.

This morning, supposing that the coast was clear, he proceeded to the opposite shore on business connected with his trade. The guerillas were on the watch, and no sooner had the boat landed than they, to the number of fifteen, rushed down to the water's edge and commenced a rapid fire upon the persons on board the boat.

It appears that their fire was especially directed against Mr. Kelly. He, however, nothing daunted by the disparity of numbers, fired his revolver in return until all the barrels were discharged, then threw it into the water and jumped in himself. While in the water a ball pierced him, which must have instantly killed him. Another man by the name of Daily was also wounded in the arm.

The guerillas then went on board the boat and scuttled it, so that it sank. Having accomplished their fiendish purpose, they leisurely mounted their horses and made good their retreat.

Mr. Kelly leaves a wife and family to mourn his death.

CAIRO, Dec. 24.—The Memphis *Journal* of the 21st says:

We observe a larger quantity of cotton on the Bluff this morning than has been seen there since the occupation of the city by the Union forces.

Cotton sales on the 19th were four hundred and thirty-four bales, middling to strictly middling, at 63@65c; good middling, 67@68c. Several lots have recently arrived by the river, including three hundred and fifty bales by the Sunshine.

Mobile papers say the Legislature of Alabama voted that the beautiful carpets that cover the floors of the Capitol be cut up and given to the soldiers of the army for blankets.

The guerrillas, under Murray and Payne, who have been committing depredations on the people in the counties adjoining Memphis, are reported to have gathered up all their forces and crossed the big Hatchie.

The Little Rock *Democrat*, of the 12th, says that the city is improving in every respect. Business is rapidly increasing, and the people feel again that they are in a land of plenty. In the State the cause is gaining ground rapidly and steadily. Secessionists are laying down their arms and prejudices, and hundreds of volunteers are enrolling themselves in the ranks of the national defenders.

A better spirit and healthier tone pervades the people.

Col. Merrill, who was sent some days ago in pursuit of the force South, sent in dispatches last night stating that he encountered the enemy, 500 strong, two miles beyond Princeton, and killed eight, six of whom were killed by sabre; wounded eighteen; took as prisoners three commissioned officers and twenty-five privates. Aggregate loss to the enemy fifty.

A foraging party, sent out by Gen. Davidson, in the rear of Merrill's advance, captured 140 beef cattle marked C. S.

The rebels are all driven beyond Ouachita. Merrill was within fourteen miles of Camden in pursuit.

Gen. Holmes is ordered east of the Mississippi.

Col. Clayton sends dispatches from Pine Bluff announcing the capture near that place of one lieutenant and seventeen men from Oley's guerilla band.

Dr. Dickinson, a resident of Memphis, was lately captured by a company of guerillas, robbed, and carried to Monticello where he was released. He furnishes the *Argus* with interesting items relative to rebel movements in Arkansas. At Luna Landing, Chicot county, they burned a crib of 6,000 bushels of corn, and another in the neighborhood containing 3,000 bushels.

He said if he did not burn it, the Marine Brigade would take it.

The advance of Gen. Fagan, commanding the State troops is reported at or near Tulip, Dallas county. Parsons' brigade was at Fort Elba, on the Saline River, between Camden and Little Rock. Fagan, whose headquarters were at Camden, had ordered a concentration, doubtless with the view of making a feint on Little Rock.

Kirby Smith was reported at Washington, Hempstead county. These places are all on the Texas route, southwest of Little Rock.

It was reported and generally believed that Gen. Polk was to be sent to supersede Holmes, who, it seems, is still in the State.

It seems there is sufficient corn, beef and pork in the rebel lines, but the clothing supplies are almost exhausted.

Receipts of sugar at New Orleans for the eleven days commencing on the 1st inst., 6,280 hhds.

FROM INDIANAPOLIS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune]

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 24, 1863.

Rev. J. W. Manfort, Indiana Military Agent at Washington, D. C., arrived here this morning in charge of two hundred paroled sick and wounded Indiana soldiers from Richmond.

The complimentary supper to Col. Egan, at the Bates House, was a grand affair.

Captain Lasier canvassed Wayne county last week and raised twelve thousand dollars for the Sanitary Commission. Wayne is the banner county so far, and the officers of the State Sanitary Commission design presenting her citizens with a handsome banner.

THE CHICKAHOMINY GRAVE DIGGER.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—It is understood that the National Conservative Union Committee, now in session in this city, has [illegible] McClellan for President, and Ex-Gov. W. B. Campbell, of Tennessee, for Vice-President.

The Pirate Alabama.

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—A private letter dated Madras, Oct. 27th, says Spair & Co. have received orders from Cape Town to advance 10,000 rupees to the Alabama, and they have a large number of letters awaiting her arrival, now daily expected. She will meet with a very cool reception from the Europeans here.

A Doubtful Rumor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A special dispatch to the *Bulletin* in this city by the independent telegraph says that Longstreet has joined Lee, and that the latter has crossed the Rapidan, Meade falling back. There have been several skirmishes with Stuart's cavalry.

Markets by Telegraph.

Milwaukee Market.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 24.

GRAIN—Wheat declined two cents on 'Change. Sales 5,000 bu No 1 at $1.15½; 20,000 bu at $1.15; 3,000 bu at $1.14½; 25,000 bu at $1.14¼. No 2 sold at $1.07½ @1.08. Oats dull and offered at 59½c without buyers. Corn quiet—old shelled in bags sold at 95c. Barley unchanged. Rye nothing doing. The market at the Newhall House, this evening, ruled a shade firmer, and No 1 prices were freely offered.

PROVISIONS—Inanimate—1,000 bbls Mess Pork sold at $14.00.

POULTRY—Good demand. Turkeys 8c @ 9c; Chickens 6c @ 8c.

LIVE HOGS—Receipts 300 head, which sold at $5.75—averaging 241 lbs.

DRESSED HOGS—Receipts [illegible]—market [illegible] lower—sales at $6.50@7.00—dividing on 200 lbs—$5.55@6.25 @7.00—dividing on 150 and [illegible] lbs.

Cincinnati Markets.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24, 1863.

WHISKY—A good demand and firm market. Sales of 900 brls at [illegible], the latter rate for wagon.

PROVISIONS—Hogs—The receipts were about 5,000, and they were held with great firmness, and at the close an advance of [illegible] was established on 200 lbs averages, selling at $7.65@7.75. The sales were: 119 av 216 at $7.50; 296 av 176 at $7.10; 136 av 220 at $7.70; 129 av 200 at $7.65; 194 av 180 at $6.85, but few of the packers were buying, which circumscribed the business.

PROVISIONS—There was some demand for old mess pork, and sales were made, but the particulars kept private; 1863 Queen City would sell $15.00; and 1863-3 at $17.00, but both held higher; country sold at 50 so far below these rates; 100 brls new mess sold at $18.40; and 1,200 pieces clear bulk sides, yesterday, at 9c—a month to salt. A good demand for gut and head lard, with sales of 600 tcs at [illegible], the former rate a lot in old cooperage.

New York Market—Dec. 24.

COTTON—Firm and rather more doing at [illegible] for middling uplands.

FLOUR—Quiet and rather heavy, without any material change in prices; [illegible] for extra State; [illegible] for Extra Round Hoop Ohio; [illegible] for trade brands, closing quiet.

WHISKY—Fair demand and lower. Prices part of last evening were [illegible] for State and Western, closing at [illegible].

GRAIN—Wheat a shade lower, with sales at $1.45@ [illegible] for Chicago spring; [illegible] for Milwaukee club; [illegible] for old do [illegible]; [illegible] for red western. Corn rather easier, with sales at $1.25@ [illegible] for shipping mixed western in store, closing [illegible] at inside prices. [illegible]

WOOL—Firm. Nothing of moment doing.

GROCERIES—Sugars quiet. Molasses dull and generally without decided change.

OILS—Petroleum steady. Crude, [illegible]; refined in bond, [illegible]; refined free, [illegible].

PROVISIONS—Pork firm and in fair demand at [illegible] for old mess; [illegible] for new do; [illegible] for old and new prime; [illegible] for prime mess. Also [illegible] for January sellers' option, [illegible] for April delivery, at [illegible]. Beef firm. Bacon sides quiet. Dressed hogs firmer at [illegible] for western. Lard firm at [illegible], the latter for new western. Butter selling at [illegible].

New York Money Market—Dec. 24.

MONEY—In active demand at 7 per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Quiet and firm at 166.

GOLD—Opened at 151⅞, and closed quiet at 151⅞.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS—Quiet and steady.

STOCKS—At second board to-day, [illegible] rallied to 152¼ this afternoon, under a [illegible] report [illegible] was advancing on Washington, but closed dull at 152.

Stocks were strong at the public board, and there was a general improvement in prices, [illegible] Hudson River, and [illegible] street this afternoon the board and quotations were well sustained.

St. Louis Market—Dec. 24.

Business again light on 'Change. More cheerful feeling in flour, and considerable [illegible] could not learn. There is [illegible] to attract the attention of sellers—no quotable change in the market. Corn and Oats both advanced.

ADDISON FARMERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given that the Annual Election of the officers of the Addison Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company will be held at the office of the said Company, in Addison, on the second Saturday of January, A. D. 1864, being the ninth day thereof. By order of Directors. HENRY D. FISCHER, Sec'y.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—Rich presentation goods at AKERLY & TOBIN'S, 123 Lake street, one door east of Clark. A splendid stock of fine Watches, Diamonds, Ladies and Jewelry, Silver Ware and Plated Goods. Every inducement will be offered to the trade in stock and prices. 123 LAKE STREET. AKERLY & TOBIN.

NOTICE.—The ticket holders in the Raffle, at the Washington Coffee House. Last evening, are hereby notified that No. [illegible] drew the Piano, No. [illegible] the Wax Wreath, and No. [illegible] the War Frame and Case.

ARABIAN COFFEE.—One half the quantity of this Coffee needed to produce a beverage Equal in Strength and Flavor to that produced by Old Government Java. Sold at 25 cents per pound. Try it.

New Advertisements.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE BRIDE, AT GALE BROTHERS, Dealers in Perfumery and Fancy Goods, 202 Randolph street.

TROMBLENTZ FARONTXTS [illegible] at Everitt's, 123 Lake street. [illegible] HAY HIAR, Agent.

CIDER SYRUP by the Barrel. Hickory Nuts by the barrel. Buckwheat Flour by the barrel. Michigan and New York Apples by the barrel. At 55 State street. H. P. STANLEY.

CHRISTMAS DAY. Toys for Christmas Gifts—NUMEROUS, BEAUTIFUL, CHEAP—at Tallmadge & Co's Periodical Store, Custom House Place, first door north of the Post Office.

U. L. A. COUNCIL No. 1 NORTH DIVISION.—The next meeting of the Council will take place FRIDAY, January 8th, 1864, at the Hall of the Good Templars, in the Cutler building, cor. of North Wells and Indiana streets. Entrance on Indiana street.

ASHLAR LODGE NO. 308.—A Special Meeting of Ashlar Lodge No. 308, F. and A. M., will be held at their Hall, in Metropolitan Building, on SATURDAY EVENING, at 7 o'clock, for work. Members are invited to attend. By order of A. W. M.

IDAHO. BY J. L. CAMPBELL. Now in Press. Price 50 cents. Maps, Guide, Journal of Residence. J. R. WALSH, Chicago, Publisher.

CENTRAL SKATING PARK. CHRISTMAS DAY. GRAND AFTERNOON MATINEE 2½ O'CLOCK. LIGHT GUARD BAND. Get your Tickets at the Park.

GRAND CARNIVAL ON Ogden Skating Pond THIS CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON AT 2½ P. M. Music by the Great Western Band. Weather permitting. Ice in splendid condition. Admission to strangers 25 cents. Ladies as spectators, free.

U. S. 5-20's. We shall continue until further advices from the Treasury Department, to receive subscriptions at PAR for the United States 5-20 Year Six Per Cent Bonds, Both Principal and Interest Payable in Gold. INTEREST WILL COMMENCE ON DAY OF SUBSCRIPTION AND RECEIPT OF MONEY. Bonds delivered at our office, or on the line of the American or United States Express Companies, within ten to fifteen days from the date of subscription, free of all expense. Parties can send currency to amounts of $50 and upwards, free of charge, by marking package "5-20's, P. W. & K." Treasury Notes or New York Exchange received at par. Also, U. S. Depository Certificates, payable to the order of JAY COOKE, Subscription Agent. The usual Commission allowed to banks and bankers. Also those wishing simply to establish National Banks, in which case we will procure all their own arrangements. We have a supply of instructions for establishing National Banks for those who wish them. PRESTON, WILLARD & KEAN, Bankers and Agents for Five-Twenty Loan, corner of Clark and South Water streets.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS From 50 Cents to $25.00. BACKGAMMON BOARDS, SCRAP BOOKS AND HERBARIUMS. Velvet Albums, $4. Pocket Books and Banker's Cases, Wostenholm's Pocket Knives, FASHIONABLE FRENCH NOTE PAPER AND ENVELOPES. Purchased from us stamped with initials without extra charge. J. W. MIDDLETON & CO., Stationers, 136 Lake-st., near Wells.

LAND WARRANTS AND Bounty Scrip WANTED AT AN ADVANCE. I will pay more than can be obtained in this or other markets for all sizes. I CAN SUPPLY PARTIES WISHING TO LOCATE AT THE LOWEST MARKET PRICE. E. W. MORSE, Agent, Post Office Box 6186. Office of BUXTON & CO., Bankers, Cor. Lake and Clark, Chicago, Ill.

THE UNION BANNER. The first number of the UNION BANNER for the New Year—bearing date January 2d, 1864—will be for sale at all the NEWS DEPOTS, And at the office of publication, 55 CLARK ST., opp. the SHERMAN HOUSE, On Thursday Next, Dec. 31st. As heretofore announced, at that time our paper will be greatly improved, and rendered much more attractive than it now is. Besides several original poems and a variety of other interesting matter, it will contain TWO SPLENDID STORIES, WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR ITS COLUMNS, either of which is worth more than the price of the paper. Parties subscribing for the BANNER prior to that date will receive it on Thursday next, either by carrier or through the Post Office, as they may direct. Price for single copy, five cents. For one year (delivered by carrier to city subscribers), $2.50. To mail subscribers, $2.00. All yearly subscribers will receive a numbered certificate which will entitle them to a chance in the distribution of valuable Gifts as advertised in prospectus. News Dealers in the country will be supplied with the BANNER, at Publishers' prices, by the following Wholesale News Dealers of Chicago: JOHN R. WALSH, McNALLY & CO., HANFORD & BARDWELL, and C. SHEAVER. W. S. SPENCER & CO., PUBLISHERS, No. 55 Clark Street, Opposite Sherman House. Post Office Box 3995.

ARABIAN COFFEE Sold Everywhere. Retail price, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS per pound.

$20,000 WORTH STAPLE AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS, BROADCLOTHS, CASSIMERES, All Wool Flannels, Undershirts and Drawers, Wool Socks and Hoods, Irish Linens, Winter Clothing, Buck Gloves, Yankee Notions, &c., &c., AT AUCTION, Without reserve for Cash, On Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 9 1-2 o'clk, AT BUTTERS' AUCTION ROOMS, In Portland Block, cor. Dearborn and Washington sts. The stock is a large one, and comprises large lines of desirable Goods, just received from New York. [illegible] WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Aucts.

200 CASES BOOTS & SHOES AT AUCTION, Without reserve, for Cash, Wednesday, Dec. 30, at 9½ o'clk., A.M. AT BUTTERS' AUCTION ROOMS, Nos. 195, 199 and 197 Dearborn street, Portland Block, corner of Washington street. [illegible] WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Aucts.

IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH. WORKINGMEN OF CHICAGO. A Mass Meeting of the Workingmen of Chicago will be held at the Hall of the Democratic Invincible Club, corner of Clark and Monroe streets, on MONDAY, Dec. 28th inst., at 7½ P. M., for the purpose of expressing their sympathy with the fellow workmen of New York. [illegible] By order of the TRADES COMMITTEE. N. B.—Officers or Delegates of all Trades Unions in Chicago are requested to meet in Montauk Hall on Saturday, Dec. 26th, at 2½ P. M.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE PROOF SAFES. HERRING'S CHAMPION BURGLAR PROOF SAFES, WITH HERRING AND FLOYD'S PATENT CRYSTALIZED IRON. [illegible] 40 STATE St., Chicago.

New Advertisements.

Grand Winter Festival,
Grand Winter Festival,
Grand Winter Festival,
By Moonlight,
By Moonlight,
By Moonlight,
At the Washington Park,
At the Washington Park,
At the Washington Park,
This Christmas Evening,
This Christmas Evening,
This Christmas Evening.
Don't Fail to Come,
Don't Fail to Come,
Don't Fail to Come,
And Bring the Children,
And Bring the Children,
And Bring the Children.
Single Admissions,
Single Admissions,
Single Admissions,
For this night only,
For this night only,
For this night only.
Gentlemen, 50 cents,
Gentlemen, 50 cents,
Gentlemen, 50 cents.
Ladies, 25 cents.
Ladies, 25 cents,
Ladies, 25 cents.
Christmas Comes
Christmas Comes
Christmas Comes
But once a year,
But once a year,
But once a year.
The North Side,
The North Side,
The North Side,
The South Side,
The South Side,
The South Side,
The West Side,
The West Side,
The West Side,
Will Greet You,
Will Greet You,
Will Greet You.
At the Washington Park,
At the Washington Park,
At the Washington Park.
Skating and Dancing,
Skating and Dancing,
Skating and Dancing,
On Beautiful Ice,
On Beautiful Ice,
On Beautiful Ice.
The Washington Band,
The Washington Band,
The Washington Band,
Engaged for the Season,
Engaged for the Season,
Engaged for the Season,
Randolph street Cars,
Randolph street Cars,
Randolph street Cars,
Land you at the Park,
Land you at the Park,
Land you at the Park.

Secure Single Tickets at the following places, and avoid delay at the door.

Office Street Railway Company.	
Barnum's Variety Store	126 Lake street
Root & Cady's Music Store	95 Clark street
Hovey's seed Store	104 Lake street
J. H. Johnson's	Randolph street
G. G. Stuart	12 Lake street

Tremont House, Sherman House, Briggs House, And at the Park.

PRICES OF SEASON TICKETS.

Gentlemen's Ticket	$4.00
Ladies' "	[illegible]
Misses' "	[illegible]
Boys' "	[illegible]

BURLEY & TYRRELL, 48 LAKE STREET, OFFER THEIR USUAL ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF CHINA, PARIAN AND FANCY ARTICLES, Silver Plated Goods, &c., &c., &c., ADAPTED TO THE SEASON.

ASK YOUR GROCERS FOR ARABIAN COFFEE.

THE GREAT AMERICAN SAFES, FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF. Made by DIEBOLD, BAHMANN & CO., Cincinnati. [illegible] F. W. PRATT, 13 LaSalle street.

CHAS. L. NOBLE, WHOLESALE DEALER IN LAMPS, CARBON AND KEROSENE OIL, 175 Lake Street.

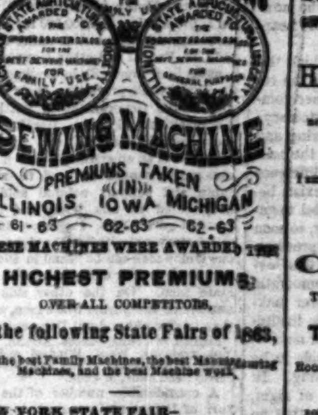
Wrought Iron Pipe AND FITTINGS FOR SAME, [illegible] R. T. CRANE & BRO., [illegible]

New Advertisements.

HERRING'S PATENT Champion Fire Proof SAFES. THE ONLY SAFE EVER MADE THAT IN EVERY INSTANCE HAS ALWAYS PRESERVED ITS CONTENTS IN THE FIRE. ALL OTHERS HAVE FAILED AND IN THAT RESPECT ARE FIFTY YEARS BEHIND HERRING'S. DON'T BUY ANY SAFE WHOSE MAKERS CAN'T SHOW THIS EVIDENCE, NOR DON'T BUY ANY SAFE THAT HAS NOTHING TO PRAISE TO RECOMMEND IT. THE OLD-FOGY SAFES ARE THOSE WHICH FAIL TO PRESERVE THEIR CONTENTS WHEN PUT TO THE TEST, AS ALL HAVE DONE EXCEPT HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION. CALL AND SEE SPECIMENS OF OUR STYLES ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF OUR STORE. HERRING & CO., 40 STATE STREET.

REED'S TEMPLE OF MUSIC, REED'S TEMPLE OF MUSIC,

88 and 90 Randolph and 69 Dearborn Sts., CHICAGO.
Largest Piano Rooms
Largest Piano Rooms
In the United States.
In the United States.
Pianos, Pianos,
Pianos, Pianos,
Monitor Organs,
Monitor Organs,
Melodeons, Melodeons,
Melodeons, Melodeons,
Remember
Remember
Reed's Temple of Music,
Reed's Temple of Music,
Buy at Headquarters,
Buy at Headquarters,
And Buy Low.
And Buy Low.



THESE MACHINES WERE AWARDED THE HIGHEST PREMIUMS, OVER ALL COMPETITORS, At the following State Fairs of 1863, For the best Family Machines, the best Manufacturing Machines, and the best Machine work.

NEW YORK STATE FAIR—First Premium for Family Machine, " " " Manufacturing Machine, " " " Machine Work.
VERMONT STATE FAIR—First Premium for Family Machine, " " " Manufacturing Machine, " " " Machine Work.
IOWA STATE FAIR—First Premium for Family Machine, " " " Manufacturing Machine, " " " Machine Work.
MICHIGAN STATE FAIR—First Premium for Family Machine, " " " Manufacturing Machine, " " " Machine Work.
INDIANA STATE FAIR—First Premium for Machine for all Purposes, " " " Machine Work.
ILLINOIS STATE FAIR—First Premium for Machine for all Purposes, " " " Machine Work.
KENTUCKY STATE FAIR—First Premium for Machine for all Purposes, " " " Machine Work.
PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR—First Premium for Manufacturing Machine, " " " beautiful Machine Work.
OREGON STATE FAIR—First Premium for Manufacturing Machine, " " " best Family Machine.

At nearly all the above the leading Sewing Machines were in competition.

GROVER & BAKER'S Family Sewing Machine, WORKING THE GROVER & BAKER AND LOCK STITCHES, The only Machine that Stitch and Embroider Perfectly. Circulars with samples of work furnished on application at Office, or will be sent by mail. GENERAL NORTHWESTERN OFFICE, 115 Lake street, Chicago.

GROCERIES AT WHOLESALE.

1,500 Boxes No. 1 Dried Herrings,
1,500 Boxes Scaled Dried Herrings,
150 Bbls. Round Pickled Herrings,
2,000 Packages Mackerel in hf. bbls and kits,
100 Cases George Bank Codfish,
5,000 Lbs. Smoked Halibut,
50 Cases Hake,
IN STORE AND FOR SALE BY GEO. W. KING & CO., 25 River-st.

200 Hhds. Cuba and N. O. Sugars,
300 Bbls. Refined Sugars,
400 Bbls. Syrups,
1,500 Hf. Chests Tea,
300 Bags Rio Coffee.
For sale by GEO. W. KING & CO., 25 River street.

ORIENTAL POWDER CO. Offer for sale a superior quality of GUNPOWDER, From Rifle size to Coarse Blasting. [illegible] G. NEWHALL, Jr., Agent, 25 River street.

A GOOD BUSINESS Buggy Horse. [illegible]

New Advertisements.

NEW BOOK BY MISS BRADDON. THREE TIMES DEAD; OR, The Secret of the Heath. By MISS M. E. BRADDON. Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," "John Marchmont's Legacy," "Aurora Floyd," "Lady Lisle," etc. Price 50 cents, Paper; 75 cents, Cloth. "Three Times Dead" has created an immense excitement in England, and the Press pronounce it to be the best Novel yet written by Miss Braddon. Also, new editions from the following popular Novels: BY MISS M. E. BRADDON. LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET … Price 25 cents. LADY LISLE … Price 25 cents. DARRELL MARKHAM … Price 25 cents. IN PRESS, from the Author's Advance Sheets: THE OUTCAST; Or, The Brand of Society. BY MISS M. E. BRADDON. Published by DICK & FITZGERALD, 18 Ann st., N. Y. Also for sale by all Booksellers in this place. Copies of the above books sent by mail, to any address, free of postage, on receipt of the price.

TREMENDOUS REDUCTION IN BOOTS & SHOES. Having received peremptory orders to close of consignments by January 1st, and desiring to make room for spring goods we will offer to the trade the Largest Stock of Custom made BOOTS AND SHOES Held in this city, in lots to suit the wants of purchasers. Regular goods and regular sizes. Sales to commence December 8th, at 9½ A. M. prompt, and continue every TUESDAY AND THURSDAY until January 1st. Goods will be offered at auction prices to parties at private sale who find it inconvenient to attend our sales. GORE, WILSON & CO., Wholesale Auctioneers of Boots and Shoes, 54 Lake-st., Chicago.

HARDENBERGH & WILLIAMS. TANNERS AND DEALERS IN LEATHER AND FINDINGS, 231 Lake Street, 231 CHICAGO, ILL. Are now prepared to fill all orders for Calf and Upper Leather, of their own Tannage. Soft, Pliable and Easily Crimped, And warranted equal in durability and finish to any American Leather. Our Calf Skins are very closely selected, and free of cuts. Also, a large stock of French Kip and Calf, of best brands, which we offer at New York prices, at a slight advance over New York. LININGS AND FINDINGS of all kinds. MOROCCOS, PEBBLED CALF, CALF SKINS Tanned with the hair on. Also, Tools, Shoe Machinery, and everything needed in the Shoe line. Orders Carefully and Promptly Filled. HIGHEST MARKET PRICE PAID FOR HIDES AND CALF SKINS. Tannery on the South Branch.

WHOLESALE. I am now receiving from New York, by express, in addition to my former stock, the BEST ASSORTMENT OF ALL GRADES OF CLOTHING, TO BE FOUND IN THE CITY, WHICH I AM NOW OFFERING FOR CASH ON The Very Lowest Margin, TO THE WESTERN TRADE. Rooms No. 32 Lake street, corner of Wabash avenue, and 54 Lake street. ASAHEL PIERCE.

PROF. VON VERAES' Newly Discovered Female Remedy Will prove a blessing to all Females. It has proved itself to be the Only Reliable Remedy Ever yet discovered for the removal of all obstructions, from whatever cause. IT NEVER FAILS. Observe the directions when it should not be taken. Warranted in Every Instance. Price $1.00, and four postage stamps enclosed to R. H. SHAW, Post Office Drawer 6161, Chicago, will ensure a bottle by return mail. The Trade supplied at 25 per cent. discount. For further particulars send for circular. Direct as above. R. H. SHAW, Sole Agent for United States and Canadas.

CHOICE MUSIC BOOKS FOR PRESENTS.—Home Circle, a collection of Piano Music, 2 Vols. Shower of Pearls, Vocal Duets with Piano Accompaniments, Silver Chord, Songs, Duets, Quartets, &c., Piano Accompaniments, Operatic Bouquet, &c. [illegible] Price of each of the above, Plain, $2; Cloth, $2.50; Cloth, full gilt, $3. Beethoven's Sonatas, [illegible] Mozart's Sonatas, [illegible] Chopin's Mazurkas and Waltzes, [illegible] All the Standard Operas. [illegible] OLIVER DITSON & CO., Publishers, Boston.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 15, 1863. The Commissioners appointed by this Department, consisting of Messrs. J. S. Morehead, of Pennsylvania, William M. Bailey, of Rhode Island, and John A. Warder, of Ohio, under and by virtue of the appropriation made by the last Congress, "For investigations to test the practicability of cultivating and preparing flax and hemp as a substitute for cotton, twenty thousand dollars." Having met, and after several days' investigation, have caused a circular to be issued [illegible] to meet again on Wednesday, the 10th day of February next, at 10 o'clock M. They request all interested in the distribution of this appropriation, or anxious to develop the subject [illegible] together with any and all information that may be of aid to the Commission. This information is necessary before an intelligent distribution of the appropriation can be made. ISAAC NEWTON, Commissioner.

NOTICE IN THE STORES THE SPLENDID SHOW CARDS OF THE Arabian Coffee.

EVERGREENS, FRUIT TREES, ETC. Persons intending to plant the coming spring, who prefer keeping money here to sending it East by itinerants, are requested to send for my Catalogue. NO TRAVELING AGENTS WANTED. "THE EVERGREENS," Lamoille, Bureau County, Illinois. Established 1841. SAMUEL EDWARDS.

FOWLE'S PILE AND HUMOR CURE, FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL USE. One bottle warranted a PERMANENT CURE in every kind of Piles, two bottles in LEPROSY, SCROFULA, SALT RHEUM, and all diseases of the Skin. In case of failure all dealers are requested to refund the money. [illegible] For sale in Chicago by F. A. BRYAN.

THE CELEBRATED CRAIG MICROSCOPE [illegible]

HORSES AND MULES WANTED. [illegible]

Chicago Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1863.

THE $300 EXEMPTION CLAUSE.

We observe an attempt being made to prevent the repeal of the $300 exemption clause in the Conscription law. It is now discovered that the $300 clause is peculiarly adapted to the wants of "poor men," and it would be a great wrong to them to repeal it. If the matter is to be discussed in that light, why not reduce the sum to $100 or to $252? It is far higher than many of the poor men pay, as was proven by the operation of the draft during the past summer. A draft was made in thirteen States. The names of 200,000 men were drawn. The number of men wanted was 300,000; but all escaped by means of the various exemptions, save 85,000, who could find no loop-hole at which to crawl out, and were too poor to raise the $300. They were unable to feign themselves in possession of any disease, or to take out foreign protection-papers, or show that they depended upon "only widows" or "fatherless children" for support; and they were unfortunately short of greenbacks, and had no friends to lend them any; their bank accounts were drawn down or overdrawn, and the financial institutions refused to "do" their paper. The consequence was, that those 85,000 "poor men" were sent to the wars to fight the battles of the chaps that happened to have the $300 on deposit at the time of the draft. Forty-six thousand conscripts got clear because they could put up their little $300 apiece, while 85,000 conscripts were marched to the bivouac and the battle, as the penalty of their impecuniosity. If the $300 clause is the poor man's friend, we don't think *they* see it. It is only fair to add that 10,000 substitutes were procured by drafted men, making the number obtained by the draft 85,000, or *one in nine* of those drawn. If the Government wants commutation money instead of men, perhaps the $300 clause is a good way to get it. But if it is soldiers to fight that are needed, then the sooner that exemption is repealed the better. And several other big holes in the present law ought also to be stopped.

If the whole 2,000,000 of enrolled militia were drafted and sifted through the existing law, it would yield but 300,000 conscript soldiers. All the rest would escape as 'tith as "sons of widows," "fathers of children," or possessing some physical defect, or if none of these dodges sufficed, then by boldly buying off, on the payment of a few dollars. As a military measure, the act in its present shape is an unmitigated humbug.

BRITISH FEELING.

We were beginning to forget how hostile the voice of the British nation had been towards us since the war began, when the matter of the Chesapeake at Halifax recalls it all. We have been well disposed to forget that hostility in our satisfaction at the stoppage of the rams, and especially since Mr. Beecher returns with the assurance that the feeling is all right since his speaking in Exeter Hall. Probably the Chesapeake affair will blow over without any considerable difficulty. And yet, it is an index of the real feeling, not alone among the Blue Noses, but of the nation with which they are connected. For in getting at the state of the vital organs in the body, we can learn what is well, if not better, by feeling the pulse at the extremities, as at the direct examination.

It is well for us to understand the state of the case, and to know, proximately at least, how far we may rely on British friendship. For allowing Mr. Beecher all the credit he may claim for his great services in setting the case right with John Bull, we have no idea that he has converted the whole British nation to our cause. He undoubtedly impressed his audiences there with his power of a speaker, and perhaps gave quantity of them new ideas as to points in the controversy which they had failed to understand; yet without doubt many of them were in the same condition with some of his hearers at home, who think themselves brought into love with religion by hearing him preach, when the truth is, they are only brought into the love of *hearing him*, and in reality love religion no better than before. Probably a good many who heard him in Exeter Hall were very content with the speaker, who now love us no better than they did before hearing him.

There are two grounds upon which the British people are said to side with the rebellion. One is political; the other commercial. The first affects the aristocracy; the second the middle, manufacturing and trading classes. The enmity of the aristocracy is undying. It comes of difference of nature. It is like that which exists between a man and a lion. They feel themselves to be at enmity of necessity, so soon as made aware of each other's presence. The nobility of Great Britain hate this Government because it is bred in democratic ideas; and democratic ideas are ever making a necessary war on aristocratic institutions, whether they aim to do it or not.

But the nobility are not the fools to be always exhibiting their true feeling. In times of peace they keep it out of sight, and try to persuade themselves that no trouble will come to them of the democracy, at least in their day. But so soon as the war endangers the integrity of this nation, the feeling that is within them breaks out. They would give their right eyes to have this nation crippled or broken, and thus free themselves from future danger.

And though the nobility of Great Britain consists of comparatively a few persons, they are somewhat like our former slaveholders in their influence. They control the press, and give voice to the nation, far beyond their title as a numerical question. But the manufacturing and commercial classes have separate reasons for siding with the rebels. They want market for their goods. The United States, as one people, buy largely of them, it is true; but they are in fear of losing this custom, because the Northern States are manufacturing for themselves, and they enact Morrill tariffs, which threaten further to increase their productions. While united as one nation, the North supplies the South.

But now that the war has broken out, if the American country can only be violently divided, as the result of it, the North will lose the South as its customer. But who shall have it? Who but Great Britain, stepping in with friendly voice to cheer them on in the war? And twelve millions of people, among whom manufactures, with a cheap system, are impossible, constitute a customer for all time not to be sneered at.

This motive was one which, as soon as our trouble began, was felt with such prodigious force that it swept the British nation from its feet. What though it had been *anti-slavery*, and had abused us without stint, because the nation had upheld the system? The benefits of that system, which had been so powerful with us, would now cease to them. And was it any worse for them to uphold slavery than it had been for us to do it? We had stood the abuse and grown rich; could not they?

And now as to the change which has come over the British nation in regard to our affairs. Let us not misunderstand the cause of it. Doubtless the British Government was moved to stop the rams by the fear of a war with us, which, even with our difficulties at home, they did not care to undertake. But *the thing* which has caused them to change their mind, and set them to hedging the future, is the fact that *the rebellion is being put down*. Even a war with England would not change that. And this consideration is one which avails with all classes. And so nobility, commons and manufacturers may as well hope friends with us, so far as they can. Even Mr. Beecher's effort, so far as it availed, did so mainly by his use of this fact. He showed them that we meant to quench the rebellion; that we felt ourselves able to do it; that we were actually doing it; and about *accomplished it*. And that was a sort of information which, though relished by John Bull as cant are said to relish warm soup, was exceedingly useful to him in helping him to get his cue.

But that he feels good in his mind towards us is not yet, we do not believe. Nevertheless, the material and commercial change which will follow such a feeling, may be the chance which was to grace to accompany *some* change. When Liverpool sees that she cannot make any money out of our disembowelment, she will love us as well as of old.

But the enmity of the aristocracy will never die; at least while we are a democratic nation. And we need not, and shall not, forget either the existence of this enmity, nor the ground of it. We now know it. The war has revealed it, and shown its measurement. And when this war is over, there will be a reaction which will plague the undying enemies of this nation. Their enmity will be sure to re-act upon themselves.

GENERAL GRANT AND THE PRESS-IDENTS.

Gen. Grant is a great strategist. He has headed off the attempt of the New York *Herald* to kill him by advocating him for the Presidency, and has written letters to his New York friends to that effect. The old hoss suggests that there is time enough to look up candidates for the Presidency six months hence, and that in the meantime while the friends of the Union would better consult the interests of the country and his own desires by filling up his wasted regiments in order to enable him and them to give the finishing blow to the rebellion as speedily as possible.

☞ General Averill's raid into Southwestern Virginia is an accomplishment of considerable importance. The damage he was able to inflict was largely in the destruction of stores, bridges, etc. He reports having destroyed three depots containing 2,000 barrels of flour, 10,000 bushels of wheat, 100,000 bushels of shelled corn, 50,000 bushels of oats, 1,000 sacks of salt, 81 boxes of clothing, 20 bales of cotton, besides harnesses, shoes, leather, tools, oil, tow, 160 wagons, and 2,000 barrels of meats. He also cut and destroyed the telegraph for half a mile, and a section of the railroad, with water-stations and tanks—also five bridges, and the culverts for two others, with no any nothing of being done the most unmitigated humbug. All this was done at Salem, in Virginia, which is not quite half way from the crossing of the Kanawha river to Lynchburg, and about forty to fifty miles from the latter place. He thus cut off Longstreet from his railroad connection with Lynchburg. The force with which this was done the rebels estimate at 25,000; but it was probably not a sixth of that. The hardships of the command in their passage of mountains and in swimming streams at this inclement season were very great, and entitle the troops to the gratitude of the country. It is our hope that Southwestern Virginia will not a great while be left to mere raiding. A suitable force pushed upward from Knoxville might work a fine time over of Lee's army, which might be extremely in convenient to him.

Another Rebel Pirate Case.

News by the *Morning Star* states that another American vessel, the James L. Gargity, which left Matanzas on November 18th, was taken possession of by rebel pirates, after the fashion of the Chesapeake affair. Six persons took passage on the vessel, as passengers, and when one day out, suddenly attacked the captain and crew, with revolvers, overpowered and confined them for eight days, and then sent them to sea in an open boat. After being two days and nights at sea, they landed at Sisal, and thence obtained passage to Havana. The captain says there are four other parties waiting opportunities for the same. This peculiar mode of piracy will no doubt run its length like an epidemic. The remedy to check it should be a speedy application of *hemp*.

More Rebel Vessels Afloat.

The late foreign news brings the intelligence that the new rebel steamer Rappahannock, which they bought in England, was in the roadstead of Calais. The London *Daily News* says that a ram, supposed to belong to the rebels, had sailed from Hull. This makes two more rebel pirates afloat to prey upon our commerce. They never attempt to engage our vessels of war, but sneak out of their way and prowl upon the track of our unarmed merchantmen. It is to be hoped that our Government will at once send out cruisers in search of these new pirates. The Alabama and Florida have given our commerce annoyance enough, without any further addition in that line, and our navy should make up for a reputation some of the fact that, as the mustaches of the English waiter is usually violated by the rebels, [illegible] every nose of the British lion, we must depend wholly upon our own strength to sweep these pirates from the seas.

☞ A significant vote was taken on Monday in the House of Representatives. The bill appropriating $20,000,000 for bounties to encourage enlistments was under discussion, and Cox, Brooks and other Copperheads expatiated their ingenuity in finding fawn with it—all the while protesting their anxiety to support the Government in putting down the rebellion. Finally, Harding, of Kentucky, put the case fairly and concisely, and proposed as an amendment that no part of such money should be used to raise, pay, equip and support colored soldiers. Nobody cared to talk back, and the House voted at once: Yeas, 41; nays, 105—a very satisfactory majority for the right side. Not one Union man can be found in the yeas, and only three or four of those known as Border State men. On the other side we find a number of the Border State men, and no less than twelve out-and-out Democrats, viz: Bagby, of Conn.; Coffroth, Kernan, Odell, Radford, Stebbins, Ward, Winfield and Fernando Wood, of New York; Perry and Steele, of New Jersey; and Baily, of Penn.

A considerable number of the slipperier sort of Democrats managed to dodge the vote altogether.

The following are the Copperheads who boldly voted against paying and supporting colored soldiers:

Yeas—Messrs. Ancona, Bliss, Brown (Wis.), Cadwallader, Cox, Denison, Eckley, Eldridge, Fisk, Grider, Hall, Harding, Harrington, Harris (Md.), Herrick (Ill.), Johnson (Pa.), Johnson (Ohio), Kasson, Kerrigan (N. J.), Law, Long, Marcy, McKinney, Miller (Pa.), Morris (Ohio), Morrison, Nelson, Norton, Pendleton, Randall (Pa.), Rogers, Ross, Scott, Stiles, Strouse, Stuart, C. A. White, J. W. White, and Yeaman.

The other Copperheads generally skulked the vote, and refused to face the music.

UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS IN LIFE INSURANCE.—We have before us the statement of the Equitable Life Insurance Society of New York, as submitted to the Massachusetts Insurance Department on the first day of November last. From it we learn that the Company in this, the fourth year of its existence, has issued 1,303 policies, for which cash premiums to the amount of $206,357 have been received. The accumulated fund has reached the handsome aggregate of $600,000. We challenge the records of Life Insurance Companies in the United States to show an instance of such remarkable prosperity. As a cash Company, it now ranks second on the list, and bids fair in a few years to stand at the head. The management of the Equitable have evinced great shrewdness and a thorough knowledge of life insurance in both theory and practice, and to this may be added the highest integrity and most untiring industry. If these characteristics combined in the officers will not build up a Company, then we should give up forever the undertaking. The Agent for Chicago and Illinois is Edward C. Wilder, whose office is at the corner of Clark and Randolph streets, under the Sherman House.

THE ASSASSINATION OF COMONFORT.—The accounts of the assassination are quite contradictory, and it is uncertain whether the French authorities had any hand in it. The official account states that Commandant Gonzales Aymire, having learned of Comonfort's approach with an escort of 150 horse, set out with his forces to meet him, and had a running fight for some distance. In returning back to where the engagement began, twenty dead bodies were picked up, among which was that of Comonfort, together with various documents of interest. According to another account, Comonfort's body was taken up by the adherents of Juarez's party, and carried to San Miguel de Allende, where it was made the subject of a post mortem examination, and afterward buried with the military honors due to his rank. He was found to have received a wound from a lance in the heart, one or two balls in the right side of the breast, and several sabre cuts about the head. As Comonfort had considerable money on his person, some have hypothesized that robbery was the motive of the attack; but the probability is that he was slain as one of the most valued adherents of the Juarez cause. He was born at Puebla in 1812. After rising high in military honors, he entered the service of Santa Anna, in 1855, and became a prominent part in the expulsion of Santa Anna; and became President in 1855, holding the office three years, when he retired before the revolution by the Church party. He went to France, but returned when the French invaded Mexico, and joined the cause of Juarez. He was appointed chief commander, and gained over the regards of his opponents.

A GREAT FILE.—Mr. Finlay, of San Francisco, has just brought to New York a pony express mail, which was carried from San Francisco to Los Angeles, a long ago as the 20th of August. It weighs just thirty-four and a half ounces, and measures fourteen and a half ounces round in one way, by eighteen and a half ounces the other way. It is a monster of the vegetable kind.

THE VOICE OF MARYLAND.—Senator Reverdy Johnson's manly speech on the President's policy has created a decided sensation. Let it be borne in mind that a Senator from Maryland declared: "I would see the institution of slavery arrested at once, let the country be subjected to all the calamities which I think would flow from the abolition of the institution in all these States for a time, rather than see *this rebellion last an hour longer*."

THE MICHIGAN.—The United States steamer Michigan, Captain Carter, has returned to Erie from Sandusky, and is preparing to go into Winter quarters. She is in excellent condition, and has been supplied with a new armament, consisting of thirteen additional guns. She now carries four twelve-pound howitzers, four two-pound "Dervolts," a sixty-four pounder boat gun, and her old pivot gun, which for many years has been her only artillery.

☞ Lord Harlington—the same young nobleman whose unconscious wearing of a Hessian badge at a party in New York created some sensation last year—has been speaking at a literary institution, in England, where he dwelt upon the defective education of New Englanders, which he ascribed mainly to "the nauseous intellectual food" supplied by our newspapers. The damage he was able to inflict was largely in the destruction of stores, bridges, etc. He reports having destroyed three depots containing 2,000 barrels of flour, 10,000 bushels of wheat, 100,000 bushels of shelled corn, 50,000 bushels of oats, 1,000 sacks of salt, 81 boxes of clothing, 20 bales of cotton, besides harnesses, shoes, leather, tools, oil, tow, 160 wagons, and 2,000 barrels of meats. He also cut and destroyed the telegraph for half a mile, and a section of the railroad, with water-stations and tanks—also five bridges, and the culverts for two others, with no any nothing of being done the most unmitigated humbug. All this was done at Salem, in Virginia, which is not quite half way from the crossing of the Kanawha river to Lynchburg, and about forty to fifty miles from the latter place. He thus cut off Longstreet from his railroad connection with Lynchburg. The force with which this was done the rebels estimate at 25,000; but it was probably not a sixth of that. The hardships of the command in their passage of mountains and in swimming streams at this inclement season were very great, and entitle the troops to the gratitude of the country. It is our hope that Southwestern Virginia will not a great while be left to mere raiding.

☞ A suitable force pushed upward from Knoxville might work a fine time over of Lee's army, which might be extremely inconvenient to him.

☞ The Washington *Intelligencer* states on what it says is reliable authority, that a letter recently published, purporting to be from President Lincoln to our Minister in England, Mr. Adams, was not written by the President.

Senatorial Service for Swindlers and Against the Government.

The more the case of Senator Hale, as developed in the United States Senate last week, is considered, the worse it appears. For a Senator to permit himself to be tempted for money to prostitute his Senatorial influence to shelter wretches that have robbed the Government, is disgraceful, and ought to be made a penal offence. The particulars of the case are thus set forth:

Senator Hale, according to his own statement, has received more than three thousand dollars for his legal services in the case of two persons who were prisoners under arrest by the War Department. One of these, Dr. Bliss, was charged with masquerading as an officer of a Government hospital. The other, Hunt, is mixed up with the steamboat frauds in connection with Quartermaster Belger, recently convicted of fraud, and dismissed from the service. Bliss was paroled, and afterwards tried and acquitted, Senator Hale acting as his counsel. Hunt had been in prison at Washington. He was paroled by the Secretary of War upon special application of Senator Hale, but the trial has not yet taken place. Hale received a fee in Bliss's case, the amount of which is not stated. He received from the friends of Hunt two thousand dollars as a retainer, and one thousand after the prisoner was put upon parole for his further services. Judging from the fee paid by the latter, Bliss must have been relieved of at least one thousand dollars by this lawyer-Senator, and at that rate the Doctor got off very cheaply. The amount of the services in Bliss's case cannot be ascertained from Senator Hale's statement, but in the case of Hunt, thus far, it seems to have not gone much further than a solicitation addressed to the Secretary of War. Senator Hale, it seems, consulted a couple of New Hampshire lawyers as to the propriety of his taking these cases. They sought upon the same stamp, and both agreed that "everything is lawful which pays." Senator Reverdy Johnson, whose practice for and against the Government is only regulated by the question of a prior engagement, assured Hale, in effect, that he was "green," as a proof of which he told him that Io (Johnson) had been acting as counsel against the Government every week. The opinion of two such eminent lawyers would have been relied upon by Mr. Hale, as conclusive, although from his propounding any inquiries to them upon the subject, it is evident that he did not flatter himself that they would be disinclined to allow him to do so.

But the people, in considering this matter, will be inclined to go further than Senator Hale and the referees of his two opinions. Does any one believe that the discharge of Bliss and Hunt upon parole could have been procured by any lawyer, however distinguished his talent, as easily as it was procured by Senator Hale? Would there not have been difficulty at the War office? Would not the solicitor have been forced to undergo delays, and to have run the risk of being snubbed or turned coldly away by the Secretary? Could any unofficial lawyer have had as ready an access to the private ear of Mr. Stanton as Mr. Hale? It is not possible. The presumption is not unwarrantable, that the parties who paid Mr. Hale about four thousand dollars for services which many a respectable lawyer would been glad to have performed for four hundred dollars or less, intended to purchase his *official influence* with his professional services. Mr. Johnson said, in his defense of Mr. Hale, "Senators do not cease to be lawyers or doctors, when called upon for professional services, either medical or legal." This may be true as an abstract proposition, but it cannot be carried out to an unlimited extent. A lawyer having taken up the case of one client cannot with justice accept a retainer from the opposite side. Mr. Hale was bound to support the Government of the United States, an officer of which he was. It would be something like taking a fee from the other side to accept pay for services against the Government.

The matter has been referred to the Committee upon the Judiciary. Whether that body (composed entirely of lawyers) will take the low estimate of legal purity conceded for by Messrs. Hale and Johnson, or whether they will insist that an officer of the Government is bound to sustain it in private actions as well as in his public conduct, is a question that should excite more than ordinary interest.

The Swiss Reply to Napoleon.

The following is a translation of the official text of the Swiss reply to the Emperor Napoleon:

BERNE, Nov. 23, 1863.

SIRE: We have received, with lively interest, the letter in which Your Majesty invites the Swiss Confederation, with the Sovereigns of Europe and others of States, to a great International Congress.

Your Majesty calls attention to the condition of various countries and points out the dangers to general peace visible upon nearly all sides. You propose to regulate this present and secure the future before irresistible events hurry Governments away in opposite directions.

The Swiss Confederation, to which nature, as well as history and treaties, has assigned a neutral position in the midst of Europe, knows how to appreciate all the benefits of peace. It understands the inestimable value of a free and reciprocal enumeration of the rights and duties of each, the true basis of a sincere and cordial understanding between the nations. We can only, therefore, accept with expressions the overture your Majesty has deigned to make.

Entirely desirous peculiar the inviolability, the neutrality and independence of our territory. The clauses referring thereto have not been effected, and the people—scrupulously observing its international obligations—have maintained, and defended at the price of the greatest sacrifices the guarantees which have been received. These guarantees have formed part of the true interests of Europe, and the great Powers cannot but recognize, now as formerly, their permanence and their security.

Ready to participate in the name of the Swiss Confederation in the solemn deliberations which are announced, we consider it our duty to express to your Majesty our gratitude for your loyal appeal, and express the hope that we may have your Majesty's efficacious support in questions touching our country.

We are glad of the opportunity furnished to us by your Majesty, of being able to defend our rights and interests at the international congress.

We express our desire that the Congress of Sovereigns and Governments of Europe may affirm the object proposed by your Majesty, and that the questions which affect state and state, may find a solution in harmony with the legitimate aspirations of the people.

While gladly quoting itself of this opportunity to express to your Imperial Majesty the sentiments of its profound respect, the Swiss Confederation would be happy to have you, with your august family, in His holy keeping.

Your Majesty's Faithful Friend,

President of the Swiss Confederation.

THE TEA TRADE.

History of its Growth—Decay of Ancient Prejudices—Its Use as a Sanitary Agent—Present Magnitude of the Trade in Great Britain and the United States.

THE CHICAGO TEA WAREHOUSE.

It is certainly a pleasing duty for the journalist to turn aside from the contemplation of "grim-visaged war," with all his "stern alarums," if perchance he can find aught to note of improvement or progress in his community. In the "piping times of peace" it is no longer a subject for marvel that we record the growth of a city, which in a young and thirty centre like our own are constantly developing into forms which are therefore to become sources of influence, power and wealth, and which from their inception are indices of wants felt only to be supplied. But this can become widely different when the story tattoo of the recruiting drum and the trumpet notes of the morning reveille are echoed back by the sound of the mason's trowel and the busy hum which proceeds from a Heart of Commerce, throbbing and bearing with the best of one hundred and fifty thousand pulses of money-seeking Humanity. These are stirring times, yes, "the times which try men's souls;" and it is a fact which is, perhaps, not less apparent to others than ourselves, that our "lines" are cast in a community which has no parallel in the Old World or in the New, for Vigor, Thrift, and all the elements of substantial, enduring prosperity. Whilst in her early days it was predicted by the serious or the foolish that our newly fledged city would add another to the long category of "golden dreams and leaden realities" in which the West was then so fruitful, sinking into a mere refuge for the moles and the bats, she has long since passed

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affiliation and her ruin, and we now accept the congratulations and the wonder of the stranger with becoming pride and dignity; pointing in return to our wharves, our shipping, our grainaries, our railroads, our manufactories, our thronging streets, our "market places" wherein no one need "stand idle." And lastly, as being the most important—the sub-soil, in fact, producing these fruits—we point with pride and gratitude to those rich plains, stretching onward and onward towards the setting sun, teeming with the counless riches of an exhaustless Nature. Step by step in this Great City of the plains advancing in all that is Progressive, beyond the growth of her elder sisters of Cincinnati and St. Louis, and keenly entering into the race with the only cities on the continent which will compare with her; and even New York herself has nothing in her Annals which can be likened to our own for the rapidity with which our city has so rightfully and surely asserted her commercial pre-eminence and position in the world. If we would "see ourselves as others see us," let us turn to our English cousins who are beginning to find us out; and slow as they are to recognize and acknowledge merit, it is only a few days ago that the "Thunderer" had his "special" in our wake, with words of commendation and marvel, while the London *Illustrated News* ventured the prediction that "Illinois, with her 150,000 men in the terrible field, was destined to be the mother of the greatest nation the world has yet seen, with Chicago for her capital and New York her seaport." Surely, then, if we are already esteemed so highly by our friends and by the stranger, we may be pardoned for any exhibition of exuberant pride. And we confess to a very great share of our city and our country. May God preserve them both!

And now while these past years, few in number though they be, have found us progressing as a Market for the great staples of the world, to an extent far surpassing the most sanguine of our early and wildest enthusiast amongst us, there has been steadily growing up in our midst a branch of Commerce which, large as it is at present, so far as the Western States are concerned is only just in its infancy. We mean none other than the TEA TRADE, of which it may be safely computed that the consumption of the commodity in Illinois alone is fully equal to the entire trade of the British Islands in 1728—or 1,495,626 pounds—of which by far the larger portion is that commonly known as *green*. As the history of this valuable commodity is little understood by the public generally, it may be deemed by some tedious to such features as we think will be of interest to our readers.

And, first, we may premise that the Teaplant is an evergreen shrub, usually growing to a height of from three to five feet. The stem is bushy, with numerous and very leafy branches. The leaves are large and placed on short foot-stalks—the flowers white and slightly fragrant. It is cultivated more or less in very provinces of China, and is brought from the small farms in the interior for sale to the merchants at the seaports, in much the same fashion as farm products are brought to market here. Two hundred years ago the use of tea was scarcely known in Europe. Corroborative of which is the account of Father Alexander Dalhousee, who entered China in 1623, remained there more than twenty years, and afterwards traveled through other parts of Asia, and who asserts that although the use of tea was then common throughout the East, and "Sejsia, if "sparing, do be found in Europe, it is all "the world, only to be "found in two provinces of China, those of Nanquin and of "Chin-Chean, where the gatherings of it occupies the people as the vintage occupies us. All "China, Japan, Tonquin, and other kingdoms "use it, and no lawyer, however distinguished his talent, as easily as it was procured by Senator Hale? Would there not have been difficulty at the War office? Would not the solicitor have been forced to undergo delays, and to have run the risk of being snubbed or turned coldly away by the Secretary? Could any unofficial lawyer have had as ready an access to the private ear of Mr. Stanton as Mr. Hale? It is not possible. The presumption is not unwarrantable, that the parties who paid Mr. Hale about four thousand dollars for services which many a respectable lawyer would been glad to have performed for four hundred dollars or less, intended to purchase his *official influence* with his professional services. Mr. Johnson said, in his defense of Mr. Hale, "Senators do not cease to be lawyers or doctors, when called upon for professional services, either medical or legal." This may be true as an abstract proposition, but it cannot be carried out to an unlimited extent. A lawyer having taken up the cause of one client cannot with justice accept a retainer from the opposite side. Mr. Hale was bound to support the Government of the United States, an officer of which he was. It would be something like taking a fee from the other side to accept pay for services against the Government.

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FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THE MONEY MARKET.

THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 24, 1863.

This has been one of the most active days of the season, in the money market. This was in a great measure influenced by the fact that borrowers had to get their supplies for two days, the holidays intervening to open to-morrow morning. The bankers dealt out all they could, but not enough to supply anything like the demand, and of course many borrowers were subjected to disappointment. We think the supply was much more about all supplied, and outsiders the principal sufferers. There was an active demand for eastern exchange, and the quotations were very firm at ¼ buying, ¼ selling. We have no quotations for gold, but from those quotations, but we think they were very generally offered to.

The Gold market was steady, with a pretty large business. In New York the quotations as telegraphed to James Boyd, Esq., were as follows: At 9¾ a. m. 133; 9:40—151¼; 10—151¾; 1 p. m. 133; the buying range was 150@150¼, and some large lots at 151. Silver is firmer, and larger coin advanced 1 per cent. The rates were 145 for small coin, and 147 for large. The demand was in a great measure for the Canada markets by speculators. Sellers were not near as plenty as buyers. Legal tender notes are firmer and in more demand, with an advance in the quotations. The buying price was ¾, and selling ¼ per cent premium. In some cases sales were made at ¾ premium.

GALENA & CHICAGO UNION R.R.—The following are the earnings of the Galena & Chicago Union R. R. Company for the week ending December 23d:

	1863.	1862.		
Freight	$98,107.61	$94,192.85	$913,238	Dec.
Passengers	6,661.29	128,07.10	608,261	Inc.
Mails, &c	1,300	1,300	50.00	Inc.
	$104,069.10	$93,121.05	$4,891.95	

COMMERCIAL.

THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 24, 1863.

The following table shows the receipts and shipments during the past twenty-four hours:

RECEIPTS, LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

	Flour, bbls.	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Oats, bush.	Rye, bush.	Barley bush.
G C U R R	100	1,000	1,000	1,000		
L I E B	300	3,000	1,000	1,000		
I L L I N O I S	100	1,000	1,000	1,000		
G A L E N A	300	10,000	500	2,000	500	1,000
A R M S B Y	100	1,000	1,000	1,000		
Ch. Air Line		1,000	1,000	1,000		
Total	2,000	16,000	5,500	12,000	1,000	2,000

	Gross Tons.	Tons.	Live Hogs.	Dead Hogs.	Cattle.	Sheep.
G C U R R	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
L I E B	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
I L L I N O I S	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
G A L E N A	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
A R M S B Y	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
A R M S B Y	100	100	1,000	100	100	100
Total	2,000	2,000	7,000	2,000	1,000	2,000

The receipts of Hogs, live and dressed, to-day amounted to 21,000. The market for Live Hogs to-day was unusually brisk, and the market was firmer—with sales of upwards of 14,000 head, at $4.00@4.05 gross—mostly at $3.90@3.60. The packers were the principal buyers—the shippers having suspended active operations for the present.

The market for Beef Cattle was inactive, but there is no change to note in quotations, with sales of upwards of 1,000 head at $2.25@4.50 gross. The demand for shipment is light; but there is still a fair demand for feeders.

Under the liberal receipts of Dressed Hogs, the market to-day raised 15@20c per 100 lbs lower than yesterday, at which the sales were unusually heavy—prices ranging from 6c for stale—the mass of the sales having been at $6.60 and $6.80, *Advising* on 200 lbs. At the close the market was heavy and the tendency downwards.

The increased receipts of Hogs to-day, it is important to note, is due mainly to the fact that we are now only receiving the Hogs that have been destined for nearly a week past on the other side of the Mississippi, and the large supply of the ferries by the ice; and though we are not among those who think that the "last drove" has come in, there is not much probability of a long continuance of such a liberal supply as we had today.

As indicative of the strides which the product of this shrub has made since its introduction amongst the nations of the West, it may be remarked that since the year 1678, when the importation into England was but 4,713 pounds—a quantity, in the way, which *gulled* the market for several years, it has gradually worked its way into public favor, until from a choice and costly luxury to be obtained, as we have seen, only at the tables of the wealthy, it has become one of the most common articles of food alike by rich and poor. In proof of this we have only to take Martin's report on the Tea Trade, and we will find that in 1798, England, with a population of 8,392,750, consumed 1,496,636 lbs in 1828, with a population of 24,561,000, she required 31,828,630 pounds; and in 1839 she required 36,000,000 pounds, her population being 28,000,000—or about forty ounces per head. And the very valuable Tea Report of Messrs. W. J. & H. Thompson inform us that in 1826-31 the American trade in Tea amounted to 7,890,907 pounds, increasing each year (with the exception of the years 1830-31), until in 1853, the imports had reached 16,827,000 lbs. Looking still further, we find in *Hunts' Merchants' Magazine*, vol. 29, pp. 105, that the imports of tea into the United States amounted, in 1848, to 19,339,000 lbs; in 1851, to 26,056,712 lbs, and in 1852-3, to 40,960,737 lbs, the average consumption being over 16 ounces per head, giving us the *second* place, as tea consumers: it being estimated that the consumption in Russia is 4 oz., in France 1 oz., and in Germany ½ oz. per head.

We have been led thus to consider the subject, by an announcement which appeared in our columns a few weeks ago, of the opening of the "CHICAGO TEA WAREHOUSE," extensively for wholesale trade, under the auspices of a well-known firm formerly in the general grocery trade—Messrs. PARSONS, PUTNAM & HANKEY,—and who, to use the language of their advertisement, for the future propose to give their sole attention to the IMPORTATION and JOBBING of Teas, on a scale larger than has yet been attempted in any market west of the seaboard. They are gentlemen of energy, character and capital, and as they have met with a large measure of success in the past, so do we trust they will be equally fortunate in their present undertaking. It speaks well for our city as a large and rapidly developing market—that the interests of the consumer *demand* that such staple in merchandize shall become a Specialty in itself, sufficiently ample to employ the energies and capital of those who are willing to embark in its service,—and we therefore the more cheerfully invite the attention of the public to this new enterprise. A few years ago the mere idea would have been treated as visionary. Now, with an area of ten States as a field of operations, it need not be regarded as beyond the bounds of probability that the day is not far in the future when vessels, whose keels are fresh from the Chinese seas, may discharge their cargoes at the hospitable portals of the Chicago Custom House, without the intervention of New York or other Eastern harbors. Thus we progress.

And now a word in conclusion: With one of the gentlemen of the firm we have mentioned, one of the editors of this paper has an acquaintance of some years' standing, and it is a source of great pleasure for him to feel that he was instrumental in bringing his young friend to a field where his energy, self-reliance and correctness of conduct have placed him in the foremost ranks of the mercantile community. Commencing with an humble clerkship, on a small salary, he has, through close and faithful attention to the trust reposed in him, [illegible] step by step to his present position—a fine example of what the qualities we have named are sure to bring to the foremost when rightly exercised in our growing city. And while looking to past successes, and predicting the future prosperity of the house with which he is connected, we feel it no less a pleasure than a duty to thus hold up the example of our friend to all generous-minded young men who may now, or hereafter, seek the rewards of probity, industry and energy in this busy marts, as worthy of their imitation, and as an encouragement to perseverance in the strait and narrow path of commercial integrity and honor.

The Reciprocity Treaty.

The following is the joint resolution introduced in the House by Mr. Ward:

WHEREAS, Under the treaty made by the United States with Great Britain, on the 5th day of June, 1854, was made by the President of the United States on the authority of Congress, and on the eight and twenty-second days of August, 1854, and duly ratified, reciprocal trade between the British North American Provinces and the United States, and the adjacent islands, which the United States and the British Provinces have, by the terms of said treaty, jointly and severally, the right to use and enjoy; and

WHEREAS, Under the treaty aforesaid, the commerce between the United States and the British Provinces has grown to be of great magnitude, and has been productive of great benefit to the people of the United States, and of the Provinces, and

WHEREAS, The British Provinces have, by their action, from the point that had made by their action, by not before carry left home. During the progress of the war, the British Provinces have, by their action, with increasing vessels, there is no nation, and in the demand, for all our domestic north operating of in the British Provinces, and the United States, and from the Canadian markets, and vessels, the

Miscellaneous.

HILTON'S CEMENT.—The [illegible]

NOT ALCOHOLIC.

A HIGHLY CONCENTRATED VEGETABLE EXTRACT A PURE TONIC.

DR. HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS

PREPARED BY DR. C. M. JACKSON, Phila., Pa.

WILL EFFectually CURE LIVER COMPLAINT, DYSPEPSIA, JAUNDICE, Chronic or Nervous Debility, Disease of the Kidneys, and all Diseases arising from a disordered Liver or Stomach.

Testimonials.

Hoofland's German Bitters.

Hoofland's German Tonic.

Recovery of the So-called Hopeless.

Lallemand's Specific.

USE LALLEMAND'S SPECIFIC

Rheumatism, Gout and Neuralgia.

Hundreds have certified to this fact.

For Sale by all Druggists. Price Dollar per Bottle.

J. H. BLOOD, Sole Agent, 3 North Fifth street, St. Louis.

J. H. REED & CO., Agents for Chicago.

Copartnership.

COPARTNERSHIP.—The [illegible]

Hardware.

LYON, SHORB & CO., SLIGO AND TYRONE IRON ST[illegible] No. 268 North Second Street, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Have everything that Blacksmiths, Farm Machine Makers, Buggy Makers, and Wagon Builders can desire, and in fullness of assortment and low prices that cannot be equaled. GEO. H. [illegible]

Dr. Tolte Smith, Von-Bude Baker.

Treat all Chronic Diseases, such as Cancer, Tumors, Blindness, Deafness, Rupture, Stone in the Bladder, Water and the Bowels, Spinal Complaints, Fistula, Piles, Fits, Ulcers, Tetter, White Swellings, and all complaints of a Private Nature, at their Office, 185 Randolph street, between Dearborn and Clark streets. Also CANCERS, TUMORS, TETTER, ULCERS, WENS, PILES AND FISTULAS, without cutting with the knife. Cure Fits, Deafness, Blindness, Rupture, Stone in the Bladder, Spinal Complaints, Tetter, Ulcers, Tumors, Cancers, Piles and Fistulas, at their Office in Randolph street, Chicago. Hours 9 to 4.

Piles! Piles!!

Dr. Wickoff's Vegetable Pills are warranted to cure Piles, in all their stages, or the money refunded in full.

Dr. WICKOFF'S PILLS, 1st New York Building, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Dr. WICKOFF'S PILLS, 1st New York Building, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Dr. WICKOFF'S PILLS, 1st New York Building, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Price Per Bottle,

Miscellaneous.

HILTON'S CEMENT.—The [illegible]

NOT ALCOHOLIC.

A HIGHLY CONCENTRATED

VEGETABLE EXTRAC[T]

A PURE TONIC.

DR. HOOFLAND'S

GERMAN BITTER[S]

[illegible]

Special Notices.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—[illegible]

Human Frailty, or Physiological Researches.—Should be read by everybody. [illegible]

Dr. James,

Formerly of James' Hospital, Custom House street, New Orleans, [illegible]

Beware of the So-called Hair Restorers.

[illegible]

Itch.

[illegible]

Dr. Bigelow,

Confidential Physician, (formerly of St. Louis, Mo.) can be consulted at his office, 173 South Clark street, corner of Monroe, Chicago, Ill., half a block from the Post Office, on all Chronic Diseases, and Diseases of a private and delicate nature in both sexes, which he treats with unparalleled success. Rooms separate, where Ladies and Gentlemen can consult the Doctor with the strictest privacy. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M.; Sundays 12 to 12 A. M. Communications confidential. Consultations free. Address P. O. Box [illegible] [illegible]

But of old references as to ability and success.

Hair Dye! Hair Dye!!

BATCHELOR'S celebrated HAIR DYE is THE BEST IN THE WORLD. The only HARMLESS, TRUE and RELIABLE Dye known. This splendid Hair Dye is Perfect—changes Red, Rusty or Grey Hair instantly to a Glossy Black or Natural Brown, without injuring the hair or staining the skin, leaving the Hair Soft and Beautiful; imparts fresh vitality, frequently restoring its pristine color, and rectifies the ill effects of Bad Dyes. The Genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR, all others are mere imitations, and should be avoided. Sold by all Druggists, &c. Factory, 81 Barclay street, New York.

A Physiological view of Marriage.

Containing nearly 300 pages, and 130 fine Plates and Engravings of the Anatomy of the Sexual Organs in a state of Health and Disease, with a Treatise on Self-Abuse, its deplorable consequences upon the Mind and Body, with the Author's Plan of Treatment—[illegible] [illegible] Address Dr. LACROIX, No. 31 Maiden Lane, Albany, N. Y.

Drs. Telte Smith, Von-Baden & Baker.

Treat all Chronic Diseases, such as Colds, Coughs, Catarrh, Asthma, the Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, Bladder and the Bowels, Dyspepsia, Diarrhea, [illegible]

CANCERS, OLD SORES OR ULCERS, TUMORS, WENS, PILES AND FISTULES.

[illegible]

Piles! Piles!!

Dr. Witfield's Vegetable Pills

Are warranted a certain cure for FISTULA, BLIND AND BLEEDING PILES. [illegible]

THIS IS NO QUACK MEDICINE.

These Pills have been tried for the last seven years, and in no instance have they failed to cure. Price 25cents per box. Sent by mail to any address. J. YOUNG, Sole Proprietor, [illegible] Broadway, N. Y.

For sale by BLISS & SHARP, 144 Lake street, Chicago, Ill.

Hudson's Unrivalled Tooth Paste

Is acknowledged by all who use it to be the BEST DENTIFRICE now in use for CLEANSING and PRESERVING THE TEETH. For healing sore and tender gums it HAS NO EQUAL. Sold by all Druggists. SMITH & DWYER, wholesale agents.

Lallemand's Specific.

USE

LALLEMAND'S SPECIFIC.

LALLEMAND'S SPECIFIC will not cure all diseases. It will cure

Rheumatism, Gout and Neuralgia.

Hundreds have certified to this fact.

For Sale by all Druggists. Price, One Dollar per Bottle.

J. H. BLOOD, Sole Agent, 34 North Fifth street, St. Louis.
J. H. REED & CO., Agents for Chicago.

Copartnership.

COPARTNERSHIP.—The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership, under the name and style of PETTITT & SMITH, for the purpose of carrying on a General Commission Business.
ROBT. W. PETTITT,
Chicago, Dec. 15, 1863. G. L. SMITH.

PETTITT & SMITH,
(Successors to T. M. Turley & Co.)
FORWARDING & COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
[illegible] South Water street, corner of State, Chicago.
R. W. PETTITT. G. L. SMITH.

Hardware.

LYON, SHORB & CO.,

SLIGO AND TYRONE IRON STORE,

No. 268 North Second Street,

ST. LOUIS, MO.,

Have everything that Blacksmiths, Plow Makers and Wagon Builders can desire, and in fullness of assortment, quality of stock and prices for same, cannot and will not be surpassed. GEO. D. HALL.

ARNOLDS'

CHEMICAL WRITING FLUID

—AND—

Machine Copying Ink.

MESSRS. P. & J. ARNOLD.

CHEMISTS, &c.

135 Aldersgate Street, London,

[illegible]

"P. & J. ARNOLD, London,"

[illegible]

Banking and Exchange.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO.
22 LASALLE STREET.
CAPITAL PAID IN, - - - $250,000.
E. AIKEN, President. E. E. BRAINTED, Cashier.

BANK OF AMERICA.—Public Notice is hereby given, that all Bills or Circulating Notes of the

"BANK OF AMERICA,"

Heretofore incorporated and doing business in the city of Chicago, under the general banking laws of the State of Illinois, must be presented for payment to the Auditor of Public Accounts of said State, at his office, in the City of Springfield, within three years from the date hereof, or the funds deposited for the redemption of said notes will be given up to said bank.
Dated this 20th day of May, A. D. 1863.
GEORGE SMITH, President.
E. W. WILLARD, Cashier.

Educational.

WESTERN UNION COLLEGE AND MILITARY ACADEMY.

The highest Literary advantages are offered with Military Instruction and Drill. All Students over the age of fourteen desiring to enter the Cadet Corps after January 1st, will please address without delay,
COL. D. S. COVERT, President, Fulton, Ill.

Commission Merchants.

JOHN S. ROBERTS & SON,
(J. S. R., late of Churchman & Roberts,)
PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
40 Water street, New York.
REFERENCES.—Messrs. Jones & Culbertson, Chicago; Thos. H. Brown, Chicago.

DAVID STUART & CO.,
AMERICAN
Produce Commission Merchants,
LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.
Advances made on consignments to our address, by WM. AITCHISON, Jr., 183 South Water st., Chicago.
REFERENCES.
J. & J. Stuart & Co., Bankers, New York.
Stuart & Brother, Philadelphia.

GRIFFIN BROS.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 6 Pomeroy Building
EDGAR F. GRIFFIN. AUGUSTUS GRIFFIN.

ABIEL AKIN & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 196 South Water street. Liberal advances made on Flour, Grain and Provisions, to be sold here or by WM. A. BROWN & CO., New York.
A. AKIN. J. B. [illegible]

ALBERT MORSE & CO.,
PRODUCE
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 13 South Water street, (Aiken's Building)
CHICAGO, ILL.
Business confined strictly to Commission.

To Contractors.

PROPOSALS FOR BARRACKS.

DEPOT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., Dec. 16, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office until the 26th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M. for the following materials:

200,000 feet saw mill lumber, hemlock, poplar or pine.
175,000 feet common pine boards.
[illegible] poplar shingles.
[illegible] feet common pine flooring, tongued and grooved.
87,000 feet—lineal—joint strips 1½ inches by 1 inch.
[illegible] windows, sash and frames complete, 10 lights 10x12, primed and glazed.
[illegible] batten doors and frames.
[illegible] wooden ventilators, sliding tops, per pattern.
[illegible] door locks, 162 pairs cast butts, with screws complete, per samples at office.
[illegible] kegs [illegible] nails.
[illegible] kegs [illegible] nails.
[illegible] kegs [illegible] nails.

The above to be delivered at Camp "Joe Holt," within thirty days from date of contract.

All proposals, and the accompanying affidavits, certificates, &c., must be made in duplicate, each to be stamped as respectfully required by Internal Revenue Law.

The full name and postoffice address of the bidder (and the full name of his partners, if bidding for a firm) must appear in the proposal.

Proposals from disloyal parties and rebel sympathizers will not be considered, and the oath prescribed by Congress must, in all cases accompany the bid.

Proposals should be addressed to the undersigned, and plainly endorsed "Proposals for Barracks."

Each proposal must be accompanied by a guarantee, signed by two responsible persons, whose responsibility must be shown by the certificate of the clerk of the county in which they reside. The form of the guarantee will be as follows:

"We —— of the county of —— and State of ——, do hereby guaranty that —— is able to fulfil the contract in accordance with the terms of his proposition, and that, should his proposition be accepted he will at once enter into a contract in accordance therewith. Should the contract be awarded to him, we are prepared to become his securities."

Bonds to the amount of forty per cent of the value of the bid, signed by the contractor and both of his guarantees, will be required of the successful bidder on signing the contract.

The right to reject any or all the bids, for proper cause, is reserved by the undersigned, as well as the right to select from each bid such materials, at the price therein named, as is required by the Government. And in case of the failure of a bidder whose proposal is accepted to furnish, within the time prescribed, in quality or quantity, the materials stipulated to be delivered, then the Assistant Quartermaster in charge to have the right to supply the deficiency by purchase and such bidder be charged with the difference of cost.

THEO. C. BOWLES,
Capt. and A. Q. M.

PROPOSALS FOR FORAGE.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON DEPOT, December [illegible]

SEALED PROPOSALS are invited by the undersigned for supplying the U. S. Quartermaster's Department, at Washington D. C., Baltimore, Md., Alexandria, and Fort Monroe, Va., or either of these places, with Hay, Corn, Oats and Straw.

[illegible]

FORM OF PROPOSAL.

(Town, County, and State) ——
(Date) ——

I, the subscriber, do hereby propose to furnish and deliver to the United States, at the Quartermaster's Department at ——, agreeably to the terms of your advertisement, inviting proposals for forage, dated Washington Depot, December 8, 1863, the following articles, viz:

—— bushels of Corn, in sacks, at —— per bushel of 56 pounds.
—— bushels of Oats, in sacks, at —— per bushel of 32 pounds.
—— tons of baled Hay, at —— per ton of 2,000 pounds.
—— tons of baled Straw, at —— per ton of 2,000 pounds.

Delivery to commence on or before the —— day of ——, 186 , and to be completed on or before the —— day of ——, 186 , and pledge myself to enter into a written contract with the United States, with good and approved securities, within the space of ten days after being notified that my bid has been accepted.

Your obedient servant,

Brigadier General D. H. RUCKER,
Chief Depot Quartermaster,
Washington, D. C.

GUARANTY.

We, the undersigned, residents of ——, in the County of ——, and State of ——, hereby jointly and severally, covenant with the United States, and guarantee, in case the foregoing bid of —— be accepted, that he or they will, within ten days after the acceptance of said bid, execute the contract for the same with good and sufficient sureties, in a sum equal to the amount of the contract, to furnish the forage proposed in conformity to the terms of advertisement dated December 8, 1863, under which the bid was made, and, in case the said —— shall fail to enter into a contract as aforesaid, we guarantee to make good the difference between the offer of the said —— and the next lowest responsible bidder, or the person to whom the contract may be awarded.

Witness: Given under our hands and seals this —— day of ——, 186 .
[Seal.]
[Seal.]

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above named guarantors are good and sufficient as sureties for the amount for which they offer to be security.

To be certified by the United States District Attorney, Collector of Customs, or any other officer under the United States Government, or responsible person known to this office.

All proposals received under this advertisement will be opened and examined at this office on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY of each week, at 12 M. Bidders are respectfully invited to be present, at the opening of bids, if they desire.

D. H. RUCKER,
Brigadier General and Quartermaster.

PROPOSALS FOR CAVALRY HORSES.

CAVALRY BUREAU,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. [illegible], 1863.

PROPOSALS are solicited, and will be received at this office until the [illegible] [illegible]

C. G. SAWTELLE,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Bureau.

Scales.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD

SCALES,

OF ALL SIZES.

Fairbanks, Greenleaf & Co.,

172 LAKE-ST., CHICAGO.

Life Insurance.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. of New York, F. S. Winston, President. Cash Assets, February 1, 1863,
[illegible]
O. CRONKHITE, General Agent for Northern and Central Illinois, No. 67 Clark st., Chicago.

Albums.

HEADQUARTERS FOR ALBUMS,

E. B. APPLETON'S, 134 South Clark Street.

Don't buy till you see the stock.

Chicago Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1863.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Adjournment of Congress—Revenue Bill—The Hale and Johnson Affair—Saulsbury and Bayard—The Eighth Cavalry—Illinois Soldiers to go Home—Prize Money—Missouri Matters—Col. Littlefield—Negro Troops—Chief Clerk of House.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1863.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS—REVENUE BILL.

Congress will adjourn this week for the holidays, but with some most important business unacted upon, and which calls for immediate legislation. The most important is the Revenue Law. Under the present law the Government is losing over a million of dollars a day. It has failed to meet the demands of the Treasury, and the manufacturers, knowing that it must be very materially amended, are running their establishments night and day all over the country, and thus saving millions of dollars to themselves, all of which is lost to the Treasury. The immense projected increase in the duties on spirits and tobacco, of which I notified you some weeks since, is being gotten ready for—that is, the manufacturing interest is making stock and paying duty on it at the present rates. Under the present law the distillers all said they would be ruined, but the contrary is the fact. The imposition of duties has in reality enriched them all, or at least all those who were able to command capital. Besides the continued advance in prices has materially assisted them, and in some cases made fortunes for those who had previously been in debt. Some parties well posted in the spirit, tobacco and ale trades, inform me that the Treasury is losing a million dollars a day every day it does not set upon the new scale of duties.

THE HALE AND JOHNSON AFFAIR.

The ventilation the New York *Tribune* has given to John P. Hale and Reverdy Johnson's acting as attorneys in cases against the Government, will, I trust, have a wholesome effect. Still it is painful to see Senators of the United States so ignorant of the first principles of right and wrong, as those gentlemen have apparently shown themselves to be. I charitably call it ignorance; but will the people believe that these gentlemen thought they could represent the interests of the Government and the opposing interests of private citizens, at one and the same time? Even in European governments no government contractor can represent the people in Parliament. Is the office of United States Senator to be prostituted to that of a claim agency? Even the clerks in the Pension and other offices are not allowed to take compensation in cases where the law is perfectly clear. How can a Senator be expected to act fairly in a case which may come before him finally for adjudication? Mr. Hale got under a cloud once before, in the case of the Collins or some other steamship line, and the people, in their great regard for the glorious principles for which he had so long and so ably battled, and in their love and charity overlooked his acts. We would think it would have been a lesson to be remembered and the act he had done an evil to be avoided. It is painful to be obliged to refer to these deviations from the path of rectitude on the part of our great men, but the duty of a correspondent to the public compels him to refer to them; and more in sorrow than in anger do I do so upon this occasion.

SAULSBURY AND BAYARD.

The two Senators from Delaware, on Saturday, made an exhibition of what to a calm and dispassionate looker on appears to be little short of disloyalty. The question comes up again. It appears that Mr. Saulsbury and his colleague object to the latter's taking the oath of allegiance prescribed by the Senate at its last session. What an example to rebels who are called upon to lay down their arms and swear allegiance to the Government? What a commentary on the late Message and Proclamation of the President? In fact, what a response the action of these men is to this magnanimous offer of Mr. Lincoln. These gentlemen set a bad example, and should be made to feel that they do. Let the Senate respect its own rules and acts, and enforce them. Begin with the men in high places, and enforce the law in their case, or it cannot be enforced in the cases of the ignorant or illiterate, who have not the responsibilities of learned Senators. If there is any hesitation or letting down in high quarters in this thing, the whole matter of the proclamation and amnesty becomes a farce.

THE EIGHTH CAVALRY—ILLINOIS SOLDIERS IN HOSPITALS.

Gen. Farnsworth has procured leave for this fine body of men, under command of Col. Gamble, to return to Illinois so soon as three-fourths of them express their willingness to be mustered into the service again. This is a splendid regiment, and has won more laurels on the Potomac than any other. It is the pride of every Illinoisan, both at home and abroad.

The General has also procured permission of the Secretary of War for all the Union soldiers in hospitals in this city, capable of being removed, to return home. The greater number belongs to the 8th Illinois.

PRIZE MONEY.

The amount of prize money received by some of the officers and soldiers of our blockading fleet is enormous. In the case of the Memphis, captured by the Magnolia some time since, $550,000 was the amount for which the vessel and cargo sold. Of this the Captain received $38,000; some of the petty officers three to four thousand dollars each; firemen twelve to thirteen hundred dollars, and sailors eleven hundred dollars each.

HORSES FOR GOVERNMENT.

The enormous number of four hundred thousand horses is used up by the Government in a single year. While in active service the cavalry is remounted about every two months. In some of the raids, and the expeditions in pursuit of Stuart's cavalry, ninety miles have been ridden in twenty-four hours. The result is that every horse comes back from such work completely used up. There are now over 14,000 horses in the immense barracks near this city, and from these barracks all the cavalry regiments in the Potomac army receive fresh horses.

And while on this subject, I might add that a dispute having arisen between Secretary Stanton and a number of horse contractors in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, &c., the Secretary has taken their cases under advisement. I learn it will take many months to decide the cases. In the meantime, the contractors who had expected to make their fortunes are suffering for means to meet their engagements to bankers and others from whom they had borrowed. Nearly a million of dollars is reported to be tied up in these contracts.

MISSOURI MATTERS.

I think I may write that Missouri matters are coming to a focus. The President has General Schofield here, as I wrote you, and is giving the management of affairs in that State a thorough overhauling. Last evening he had a protracted interview with Senators Brown and Henderson, at which the condition of affairs in the State, present and prospective, was discussed in all its bearings.

COL. LITTLEFIELD—NEGRO TROOPS.

I had the pleasure of meeting Col. Littlefield, of the 4th South Carolina volunteers, and in command of the negro brigade at Folly Island, in the War Department to-day. Col. L. is a resident of Jerseyville, Illinois, and, by the bye, the Copperheads of that part of the State had him fined for bringing home a negro servant with him from the war. Gov. Yates will, no doubt, quietly pardon the offender. He speaks in the highest terms of the negro troops; of their efficiency, docility, bearing, and their aptitude for the profession of arms generally. The Colonel is a fine looking specimen of a Sucker, and his whole heart and soul are in the war, and especially the employment of negro troops as an efficient means of carrying it on.

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. McPherson, Clerk, has just appointed Clinton Lloyd, Esq., of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, his Chief Clerk. Mr. Lloyd is a War Democrat, and a gentleman of talent and industry. ZETA.

THE TRIAL OF HON. J. R. GIDDINGS.

Motion to Quash Proceedings—Argument of Counsel.

[Special Dispatch to the Toronto Leader.]

MONTREAL, Dec. 18, 1863.

The Giddings case was heard to-day on motion to quash the *capias* and relieve his bail. The argument of his counsel was that it was illegal to issue a *capias* on Sunday, especially under circumstances not warranting the issue on that day; second, that a *capias* could not issue for unliquidated damages which arose from a personal tort; third, that the affidavit did not contain sufficient description of the quality assumed by the plaintiff, who did not show whether he was a party to the suit or not; that the grounds of belief of the deponent Redpath, requiring to be set forth clearly in detail by the positive statute law of the land, unless they are sufficient to justify the issue of the writ ought to be set aside on a motion to quash.

It was held by the counsel for Mr. Giddings that no *capias* can issue for unliquidated damages. It was held by the counsel for Redpath that it was not necessary that the writ should depend on unliquidated damages.

The motion to quash the writ and the motion for security for costs was taken *en delibéré* by Judge Smith.

Another Female Soldier.

Lizzie Compton, a bright young lady of sixteen, arrived in the city yesterday from Bardstown, where she had been encamped with her regiment, the 11th Kentucky cavalry, of which she has been a member for several months past. Her history, during the past eighteen months, is strange and romantic. She has served in seven different regiments, and participated in several battles. At Fredericksburg she was seriously wounded, but recovered, and followed the fortunes of her sex, which cast her from the Army of the Potomac to the Army of the Cumberland. She fought in the battle of Green River Bridge, on the Fourth of July last, and received a wound which disabled her for a short time. She has been discovered and mustered out of the service seven or eight times, but immediately re-enlisted in another regiment. She states that her home is in London, Canada West, and that her parents are now living in that place. This young girl has served a term of eighteen months in the army, and, were it not that she dreads the annoyance of being detected and mustered out, she would enter the service again.

She was sent to this city by the officer in command at Bardstown to be again mustered out, and is now at Barrack No. 1, awaiting orders.—*Louisville Journal.*

MONITORS BEFORE CHARLESTON

Report of the Result of the Fire by the Monitor Captains.

[Relating to the Monitor attack on Charleston, in April last, under Admiral Dupont:]

Capt. Drayton, of the Passaic:

At the fourth shot from a 11-inch gun, I was struck in quick succession in the lower part of the turret by two heavy shots, which bulged in its plates and beams, and forcing together the rails on which the 11-inch carriage worked, rendering it wholly useless for the remainder of the action—several hours being necessary to put it in working order. Soon after it was discovered that there was something the matter with the turret itself, which could not be moved, and on examination it was found that a part of the brass ring underneath it had broken off, and being forced in board, had jammed; on clearing this, the turret could again be moved; but for some time irregularity. A little after a very heavy rifle shot struck the upper edge of the turret, broke all of its eleven plates and then glancing upward took the pilot-house; yet with such force as to make an indention of two and a half inches, extending nearly the whole length of the shot. The blow was so severe as to considerably mash in the pilot-house, bend it over, open the plates and squeeze out the top, so that on one side it was lifted up three inches above the top on which it rested, exposing the inside of the pilot-house, and rendering it likely that the next shot would take off the top itself, entirely.

Captain Rodgers, of the Weehawken:

Two or three heavy shot struck the side armor near the same place. They have so broken the iron that it only remains in splintered fragments upon that spot; much of it can be picked off by the hand, and the wood is exposed.

The deck was pierced so as to make a hole, through which water ran into the vessel; but it was not large. Thirty-six bolts were broken in the turret, and a good many in the pilot-house; but as these are concealed by an iron lining, I have no means of knowing how many.

At one time the turret revolved with difficulty in consequence of a shot upon its junction with the pilot house, but it worked well again after a few turns had been made with higher steam.

Captain Worden, of the Montauk:

I desire to say that I experienced serious embarrassment in maneuvering my vessel in the narrow and somewhat tortuous channel, with the limited means of observation afforded from the pilot house, under the rapid and concentrated fire from the forts, the vessels of the fleet close around me, and neither compass nor buoys to guide me. After testing the weight of the enemy's fire, and observing the obstructions, I am led to believe that Charleston can not be taken by the naval force now present, and that had the attacks been continued, it could not have failed to result in disaster.

Commander Ammen, of the Patapsco:

Forty-seven projectiles of the enemy struck the vessel. No damage was done which disabled her, although injuries were received, which, multiplied, would do so. Forty bolts of the smoke stack were broken, and a chain around it will be necessary to its continued security.

I am indebted to Acting Master Vaughan, transferred temporarily to this vessel, for valuable aid in avoiding collisions, as it is out of the question for one person to observe properly from the various light holes. I think a want of vision one of the most serious defects of this class, making it impossible to fight them advantageously, to avoid dangers, or to make a satisfactory reconnoissance.

Another question of great importance as relates to their efficient employment is the character of the battery. If it is proposed to batter down forts with a fifteen-inch gun, then it is quite plain that we have to come within distances at which heavy ordnance, if employed in heavy batteries against us cannot fail in the end to injure or perhaps disable us.

Commander Rogers, of the Catskill:

I was surprised to find, even with this severe fire, that these vessels could be so much injured in so short a time, two or three having passed me during the action, to which some disaster had happened. This vessel was struck some twenty times, but without any serious injury, except one shot upon the forward part of the deck, which broke both plates, the deck-planking, and drove down the iron stanchion sustaining the beam about one inch, causing the deck to leak.

Commander Fairfax of the Nantucket:

Our fire was very slow, necessarily, and not half so observable upon the walls of the forts as the rain of their rifle shot and heavy shell was upon this vessel. After the third shot from the 15-inch gun, the port stopper became jammed, several shot striking very near the port and driving in the plating; it was not used again.

As the fleet withdrew, the forts materially slackened their fire, evidently not wishing to expend their ammunition without some result. Certainly their firing was excellent throughout; fortunately it was directed to some half-dozen iron-clads at a time. The effect of their fire upon the Keokuk, together with that of their heavy rifle-shot upon the monitors, is sufficient proof that any one vessel could not have long withstood the concentrated fire of the enemy's batteries. The obstructions being placed at a concentrated point of fire from the three forts, shows conclusively that they must have been of no mean character. Our fire always drew down upon us four or five heavy rifle shots, aimed at our ports. One rifle-shot struck within less than six inches of the fifteen inch port; several struck very near. I am convinced that, although this class of vessels can stand a heavy fire, yet the want of more guns will render them comparatively harmless before formidable earthworks and forts. I must say that I am disappointed beyond measure at this experiment of monitors overcoming strong forts. It was a fair trial.

Lieutenant Beardslee, of the Nantucket:

One rifle shot struck on the lower corner of the fifteen-inch port, denting the outer plate about one and a half inches, and bulging the whole thickness, so much as to prevent the port stopper from swinging. This shot was received after the third fire from the fifteen-inch, and disabled the gun for the rest of the fight, we not being able to open the port. A ten-inch shot struck directly opposite, and near the top of the turret, starting a number of bolts, and breaking the clamp ring inside. During the action the turret became jammed. Upon examination, we discovered six or seven bolt-heads and nuts that had fallen inside and into the recess around the bottom of the turret, rendering it necessary to key the turret higher in order to clear them. Upon attempting to revolve the turret again to-day, found that another had fallen since the first were removed. The pilot house was struck once, a square hit, but doing no damage. The side armor was struck nine times—once below the water line. A number of the side plates are started so much that another shot in their vicinity would, in my opinion, knock them off. One bolt was driven through the iron and was buried in the oak. One of the deck plates is started from a blow on the side armor. The smoke stack was riddled in the upper sections, and received five shots in the lower sections—one a solid ten inch, fell, after striking upon the deck and was secured.

The steam-whistle was cut off. The deck plates were cut in twelve places. One shot cut through the iron, and about two inches into the beam, starting the plate, several bolts, and the planking for some feet below. This was directly over the Andrews pump, in the engine-room. The others are not serious. The first discharge of the fifteen-inch gun blew off eight of the heads of the bolts securing the muzzle box. The discharge of the eleven-inch gun, or else the blow of a shot on the turret, lifted one of the perforated plates on top. These plates are not properly secured. The outer plate in the fifteen-inch port is started about one-fourth of an inch; the next layer in a less degree. Two of the "guides" to the eleven-inch carriage were carried away, through the gun not being properly compressed. Some of the gear to the engine-room bell was disabled at the first fire, causing trouble and confusion in getting orders promptly conveyed from pilot-house to engine-room.

Captain Downs, of the Nahant:

We soon began to suffer from the effects of the terrible and, I believe, almost unprecedented fire to which we were exposed, and at 4:30 the turret refused to turn, having become jammed from the effects of three blows from heavy shot, two of them on the composition ring about the base of the pilot-house (one of these breaking off a piece of iron weighing 78 pounds from the interior, that assisted to keep the house square on its bearings, throwing it with such violence to the other side of the house, striking, bending and disarranging steering gear in its course, that it bounded from the inside curtain and fell back into the center of the house), and the other on the outside of the turret, bulging it in and driving off the 1½ inch apron bolted on to the inside to keep in place the gun-rails, and down the main trace of the turret. The bolt-heads flying from the inside of the pilot-house at the same time struck down the pilot, Mr. Sofield, twice struck and senseless—and the Quartermaster, Edward Cobb, helmsman, fatally injuring with fractured skull, leaving me alone in the pilot-house, the steering gear becoming at the same time disarranged. We were within five hundred yards of Fort Sumter, unmanageable, and under the concentrated fire of, I think, one hundred guns at short range, and the obstructions close aboard. But fortunately we got the preventer steering gear in working order in time to prevent disastrous results. And getting my vessel once more under command, I endeavored to renew the action, but after repeated futile attempts to turn the guns on the fort, I concluded to retire for a time from close action and endeavor to repair damages.

We received the following injuries to the vessel and fittings, besides those already enumerated; the plate on side armor broken badly in several places, and in one, where struck by two shots in close proximity, partly stripped from the wood and the wood backing broken in, with edging of deck plates started up and rolled back in places. On port quarter side, armor all indented, and started from side and extremity of stem. The deck is struck twice damagingly—one shot near the propeller well, quite shattering and tearing the plating in its passage, and starting up twenty-five bolts; another starting plate and twenty bolts; and slighter blows are numerous. In smoke-stack armor there are three shot marks—one that pierced the armor, making a hole fifteen inches long and nine inches broad, displacing grating inside and breaking seven bolts. In the turret there are marks of nine shot; fifty-six of the bolts are broken perceptibly to us, the bolt heads spinning off inside of turret, and the bolts starting almost their length outside, some of them flying off completely and being found at a considerable distance from the turret on the deck. Doubtless many others are broken that we cannot detect, as by trying them we find others loosed. One shot struck the upper part of the turret, breaking through every plate, parting some of them in two, three and four places. In the pilot-house there were marks of six shot, three of them 11-inch; twenty-one of the bolts were broken perceptibly, and others evidently started. The plates are also much started, and the pilot-house itself, I think much damaged and weakened; indeed, it is my opinion that four more such shots as it has received would have demolished it. One shot at the base broke every plate through, and evidently nearly penetrated it.

PARIS CORRESPONDENCE.

Who Killed the Congress?—I, Says Lord John Russell—The Effect of the Refusal.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1863.

The famous Congress of Sovereigns is dead, and it was Lord John Russell that killed it. Or rather the Congress was always dead, and it was Lord John that buried it. Not that the English Foreign Secretary discovered any new arguments against the Congress, or said anything that was not known by all the world, but because he had the courage to say brutally on paper what the rest either shrunk from or covered up in such a froth of words as to mystify the best intentioned readers. Thus Prince Gortschakoff accepts in a reply so smothered up with politeness, as to leave a doubt whether it is in fact an acceptation, or only a high flown attempt at irony. But there is no humbug about Lord John, he knew the thing was a Napoleonic swindle, and he said so.

The first effect of this refusal at Paris had been to throw down the funds and revive the fright about a war. France has been insulted and France is a military power; therefore, she must fight. That is the logic of the thing. But France has no idea of fighting Russia alone, and Austria will not engage in any conflict which will weaken her hold on Venice. Therefore, France will try to keep friends with Russia and obtain from her by concessions, what will save her military honor, and the whole affair will end with the mutual exclamation, "*Embrassons nous Folleville!*" Only the Polish revolution will be crushed out, and the *statu quo* will be maintained throughout Europe till the revolutionary party and Garibaldi decree otherwise. And this will not be long, if the Spring opens with all hope crushed out of any yielding on the part of the continental monarchs.

The reply of Lord John Russell has had this further effect in France, that the friends of the present dynasty are deeply vexed, and cry out for the millionth time "Perfidious Albion!" "Nation of unprincipled shopkeepers!" and so on—you know the song; while the enemies of Napoleon are naturally delighted at his defeat.

But everybody says that since England defeated the Congress, and is at the same time the leading liberal Government of Europe, it is her duty now to find and support some remedy for the alleviation of the suffering nationalities of the Continent. But England will support nothing but a peaceable renunciation by Russia and Austria of their rights over Poland and Venetia, and a peaceable renunciation is scarcely to be hoped for. We come back then infallibly to this, that the next thing to look for is a repetition of 1848, but on a much larger and surer basis. Fortunately this time there will be one Chief whom all will obey, and the movements of the revolution may thus be combined in such a way as to strike more surely and fatally the despotic powers that refuse to yield to justice and reason.

A pamphlet which has just been published here, entitled "Napoleon III, and the European Congress," and which was gaining a wide influence by its supposed Imperial origin, is disavowed this morning officially in the *Moniteur*, and thus falls to the ground powerless. The pamphlet advocated war, and was probably paid for out of the treasury of the Polish Committee—for that is the way all causes, good or bad, are backed up at Paris.

Another Confederate cruiser, the Rappahannock, has escaped from an English port, and come to a French port to take on board her officers and crew. The papers publish all the details in regard to the movement of this vessel that we have been able to obtain in France.

The Schleswig-Holstein Question.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1863.

The following proclamation of King Christian to the Holsteiners has been published today: "The order of succession of the Danish Monarchy was intended to be a labor of peace, undertaken by us without personal ambition, in the hope of serving the country. It has been accepted as public European law, because the integrity of the Danish monarchy was recognized as being a necessity to European peace. Opposition, under the mask of founded hereditary claims has, however, been raised against the measure, purposing the dismemberment of the Danish monarchy. This opposition has also gained ground in Holstein, calling forth excitement and doubt. The maintenance of the monarchy is one of our most important duties. As a ruler, we cannot suffer officials to foster a position, and are resolved to put down insurrectionary movements with armed force. The endeavor of many years to bring about an understanding upon the constitutional relations of the monarchy, has not been attended with success. While, however, we intend to give to the territories belonging to the Confederacy an independent position in the kingdom, which has already been accomplished with the remaining portions of the monarchy, we hope that when Holstein finds herself contented in constitutional freedom, and the pretence for foreign intervention is thus removed, she will voluntarily decline nearer connection with the remainder of the country."

A proclamation has also been issued by the Lauenbergers, thanking them for not having been led away from their duty as subjects in spite of overtures from without.

The Richmond Tobacco Trade and the French Tobacco.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. 18.]

At a called meeting of the Richmond Tobacco Trade, held at the Tobacco Exchange, on the 19th inst., the President in the chair, Capt. Wm. Y. Sheppard was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

The committee appointed at a meeting of the Trade, on the 19th inst., made the following report, which, on motion of John Jones, Esq., was received and adopted:

The Committee appointed by the Richmond Tobacco Trade, at its meeting on the 10th inst., have the honor to report that they sought and obtained an interview with His Excellency, the President of the Confederate States, and through him, with Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State, on the subject of certain publications in the Richmond daily newspapers, on the 5th inst., relating to the French Tobacco in the city of Richmond.

The committees were most cordially and respectfully received, and were informed by His Excellency, the President, and Mr. Benjamin, that the publications aforesaid do not contain the facts in relation to the French tobacco, but that the Confederate States Government neither could or would make any objection to the removal of any tobacco, within the limits of the Confederacy, belonging actually to the French Government, if done under certain restrictions, viz: To be cleared from the Confederate port, and not to touch at any port in the United States. They were informed, also, that under the arrangement entered into between the Confederate States Government and Monsieur Paul, the agent of the French Government, no tobacco, other than that belonging to the French Government, would be permitted to leave the Confederacy.

Respectfully submitted,
SAM'L J. HARRISON, Chairman.
Richmond, Dec. 12, 1863.

On motion of P. D. McKinney, Esq., the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That inasmuch as the publication of the order of the Federal Government of the United States, on its face, seems intended to convey the idea that the tobacco shipped by and for the French Government was bought and paid for prior to the 4th of March, 1861, and such not being the case, all of the tobacco having been bought since that time, that the facts shall be made known to the world by this publication, and that the chairman of the meeting be requested to send by the different steamers leaving the Confederate States for foreign ports, a copy of the daily papers containing the above facts.

On motion, it was ordered that the proceedings of the meeting be published in all the daily papers of the city.

JOHN CASKIE, Pres't.
WM. Y. SHEPPARD, Sec'y, pro tem.

A Bible Society Meeting ending in a Fight.

A meeting of the Hamilton Branch Bible Society was held at Hamilton, C. W., a few days since, which resulted in a free fight at the close. Edward Jackson, Esq., the Vice President, was nominated as Chairman, which was the signal for an uproar amongst a clique who were determined he should not occupy it. He succeeded in doing so, however, and made a brief speech. Two of the members arose, each claiming the floor, when a disgraceful tumult arose, which continued in such a manner that the Chairman declared the meeting dissolved. The Hamilton *Spectator* gives the *denouement* as follows:

Notwithstanding the declaration of the dissolution of the meeting, the crowd still lingered in the hall, as if expecting some thing else to occur, and their expectations were not long ungratified. A swaying to and fro of a knot of persons in the centre of the hall attracted our attention, and on proceeding thither we found Hugh McMahon and a Mr King struggling for the possession of a walking stick. The origin of the disturbance, as near as we could ascertain, was as follows: McMahon went up to Mr. James Walker, who had the books of the society under his arm, and took hold of them. Mr. King went in between them, and pushed away McMahon, Mr. Walker making his escape in the meantime. McMahon seized hold of King's stick, one or two others joined in, and soon there was quite a disturbance, but it would doubtless soon have been quelled had it not been for the introduction of another element. Some five or six Irishmen (and Roman Catholics, we believe) armed with shillelahs, dashed into the crowd with wild whoops and yells, and laid about with their sticks in the most promiscuous manner, the leader calling out, "clear the way before you boys!" The seats were scattered in all directions, and a scene of the wildest confusion ensued. After a time the gang of rowdies went out of the hall, smashing at the seats with their bludgeons and yelling like savages. The excitement continued for some time after their disappearance; and it was not until the Superintendent prepared to turn out the gas that the crowd was persuaded to leave the hall.

The Methodist Bishops in the South.

The *Methodist* of last week says:

The recent appropriation of thirty-five thousand dollars for the extension of our work in the far South is likely to be followed by important consequences. Almost simultaneously with it appears the proclamation of the President offering to the people of the states now in rebellion an amnesty on certain conditions which he has thought fit to prescribe.

Measures have already been taken to carry out the plans of our church. Bishop Ames, at last accounts, was at St. Louis, preparing to start upon his tour down the Mississippi. Bishop Simpson will soon proceed to Tennessee. A prominent and popular Methodist minister, now stationed in New York city, has been designated for the city of New Orleans; and though the appointment demands of him not a little sacrifice, his acceptance is nevertheless hoped for. An order has been given by the Secretary of War permitting the occupation of deserted churches within our military lines, and the use of them temporarily for religious services. No questions of ownership or possession are to be raised; these can be determined only when the several States are brought back to their allegiance, and civil rule is once more established over their people.

Many facts in the condition of the southern States encourage the hope of the return of the vast majority of Methodists of the South to the old church—the church of Asbury and McKendree, from which many of them separated with the greatest reluctance. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is shivered to atoms. It is doubtful if its General Conference will ever meet again; or if it shall meet, it will be shorn of its former proportions. The publishing house in Nashville is in the hands of the United States authorities; its finances were impaired beyond remedy before it was closed by military order. The members of the Louisville Conference, at their last session, avowed their loyalty to the government of the Union, and by that avowal severed themselves from the rebel part of southern Methodism. The southern Methodist Church, which was one of the chief moral supports of the rebellion, will inevitably share its fortunes and go down with it to a common ruin. As the rebel statesmen have made slavery the corner-stone of their Confederacy, so has the southern Methodist church placed under that cornerstone the New Testament. It did its best to give the sanction of religion to the political measures which terminated in secession.

Confusion of Names.

[From the New York Tribune.]

Many sensible people are puzzled by hearing or reading that Mr. Smith, Mr. Brown, or Mr. Jones has said or done something in Congress, which he could not believe said Smith, Jones or Brown could do. He fails to consider that there may be more than one Smith, and that men of like name are not necessarily of like politics. For the benefit of a large class, we volunteer the information that:

There are three Browns in the present Congress—B. Gratz, of Missouri, in the Senate, Wm. G., of West Virginia, and James S., of Wisconsin, in the House. Only the last is a Copperhead.

Of Chandlers, there are two—Zachariah, of Michigan, in the Senate; Lucius H., of old Virginia, in the House; besides John W. Chanler, of New York city. (Lucius H., by the way, has not yet been admitted, but, we presume, will be). Our Chanler is a bad egg, politically; while the one that hails from Michigan is as good as can be.

Of Clarks, this Congress rejoices in the possession of three—Daniel of New Hampshire, in the Senate; Ambrose W. and Freeman, both of New York, in the House. All three are sound.

Of the wide-spread family of Davis, Garret (Border State) represents Kentucky in the Senate, while Henry Winter, of Maryland, and Thomas T., of New York, are in the House. If you hear of anything said by a Davis that a loyal man should not say, you will attribute it, of course, to Garrett.

Of Dixons, James (Senate) hails from Connecticut, while Nathan F. represents Western Rhode Island. Both good.

Of Hales, John P. of New Hampshire, is in the Senate, James T., of Pennsylvania, in the House. Both Union.

The name of Harris is unusually well represented in this Congress—Ira representing New York in the Senate, while Benjamin G. of Maryland, and Charles M. of Illinois, have seats in the House. If you hear that "Mr. Harris" has said anything loyal and patriotic, you may safely credit it to Ira.

Of Hubbards, A. W. from Iowa, John H. from Connecticut, are both in the House, together with Calvin T. Hulburd of New York. If rebellion or slavery derives any aid or comfort from anything a Hubbard or Hulburd says or does, be sure it is some one not in Congress.

Of Johnsons, there are Reverdy of Maryland, in the Senate, Philip of Pennsylvania, and William of Ohio, in the House. Reverdy was elected as a Unionist, but we don't brag on any of them.

Of Kelloggs there are two—Francis W. of Michigan, and Orlando of our State,—both in the House, and as good Unionists as they make anywhere.

Of Lanes there are two—Henry S. of Indiana, James H. of Kansas,—both in the Senate and both Union.

Of Millers but two appear—Samuel F. (Union) of New York, William H. (Coppery) from Pennsylvania.

Of Morrills, Lot M. is a Senator from Maine, Justin S. a Representative from Vermont—both sternly Union.

The name of Morris belongs to two members—Daniel (Union) of New York; James (Coppery) from Ohio. Each is in the House.

So Myers is the common appellation of Amos and Leonard of that ilk—both from Pennsylvania, and both Union.

Of O'Neills, Charles (Union) is from Pennsylvania; John (Coppery) from Ohio; both are in the House.

Of Pomeroys, Samuel C. represents Kansas in the Senate; Theodore S. is from New York; both thoroughly Union.

There are two Randalls in the House—Samuel J. of Philadelphia, and William H. of Kentucky. Of these, the latter is Union, but of the Border State pattern; the other is of the Copperhead persuasion. Curious as it may seem, they usually vote alike.

The Smith family were scandalously overlooked in electing to this Congress But one of them—Green Clay, of Kentucky,—was chosen. Mr. Smithers of Delaware, just escaped being a Smith. Both are Unionists.

Of Steeles there are John B. from New York, and William G. of New Jersey—Copper fastened, both, and both in the House.

The house of Rollins has two representatives—Edward H. of New Hampshire, (a true Unionist) and James S. of Missouri, who ought to be the same, but isn't. He somehow stands aloof from parties, but of heart seems to long for the flesh pots of the compromising era.

Of Washburnes, Illinois sends Elihu B. and Massachusetts William B.—both strongly Union.

Of Whites, Chilton A. and Joseph W. (both Copperheads) complete the catalogue.

Of Wilsons, Henry, of Massachusetts, is in the Senate, James F. of Iowa, in the House—both largely Union.

Finally we have two Woods—Fernando and Ben., both of New York city. If the politics of one of these are better than those of the other, we would like to know which is the good one, or how any one can be worse than either of them.

SOJOURNER TRUTH.—A letter from Battle Creek, Michigan, says:

Sojourner Truth lives here in Battle Creek; is very aged and poor, but is most kindly cared for by the citizens far and near. She wants for nothing that can make her comfortable; she realizes a little by the sale of her photographs—those who purchase each paying her from twenty five cents upward. Some time this fall she received a draft of a small amount—$50, I think—from England; also one from Pennsylvania. She is not without many friends, and seems to enjoy life as well as ever. She takes her daily walk, staff in hand, regardless of weather, and has a pleasant smile, and a kindly greeting for each and all.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

Among the acts passed by the West Virginia Legislature at its recent session was one for a system of free schools.

—A London letter says the bereaved Geo. Jordan has gone into court, through his counsel, and accepted ten pounds sterling damages for being imprisoned in connection with the Bourcicault affair.

—M. About, in a recent publication, says of an avaricious man, that "it had been proved that after having kindled his fire, he stuck a cork in the end of the bellows to save the little wind that was left in them.

—A church in France was lately struck by lightning, and when the attendant opened the church in the morning he found all the candles lighted and blazing away, as if celebrating the grand mass.

—It is said that the secesh women may be known in the towns on the Mississippi by the absence of crinoline. They will not wear the round-abouts, which they hold to be a Yankee fashion.

—A correspondent of the Montgomery (Ala.) *Advertiser* says that John Morgan has fought sixty-three battles, has been successful in fifty-seven; taken 50,000 prisoners; killed and wounded 20,000, and destroyed $50,000,000 worth of property; taken 50,000 stand of small arms, 50 pieces of artillery and 20,000 horses, and traveled 12,000 miles.

—There is said to be so much American butter in England that, at the present prices, it would be a good speculation to bring most of it back for sale.

—Professor Agassiz, in a late lecture in Springfield, Mass., said: "Boys girls, men and women, should be less cloistered. They should be associated in the school on the farm and in the shop. Their influences should be pure and healthful, and thus would the race attain more perfect development. Society will then be put on a higher foundation."

—There is an old gentleman living in Bolton, Ct., who now has in the United States service, four sons-in-law, seven grandsons, thirteen nephews, and one daughter (as hospital nurse)—in all, twenty-five of his family connections. A good representation.

—The various soup houses in Philadelphia are now making preparations for distributing soup to the poor during the winter.

—The following singular announcement appeared in the *New York Herald*—"Six bridesmaids and groomsmen wanted, by a couple about to be married, who have but a few friends in this city, and wish to be handsomely united. To respectable parties a fair compensation will be given. Address, etc."

—When a photograph album, filled with choice pictures of American statesmen, literati and warriors, was presented to the Emperor of Brazil by J. C. Fletcher, the Emperor asked to be shown the picture of Prof. Agassiz. Gen. Meade was the second one called for, General Gilmore the third, and Chas. Sumner the fourth.

—A patriotic old lady recently sent three smoking caps as presents to officers in the Potomac army. One was for General Meade, and the remaining two she desired to be presented to two generals, one of whom must be a teetotaller, and the other one who never indulged in profanity. Gen. Williams, chief of Gen. Meade's staff, took the Anti-Profanity Cap, and Gen. Hunt the Temperance Cap.

—Mad'lle Lucca, who appeared in London for the first time last season, has just concluded a life-long contract with the Royal Opera House at Berlin, whereby she obtains £1,200 a year salary, besides a small honorarium for each appearance, five months, a year leave of absence, and a retiring pension of £300 a year.

—Madame Borghi Mamo has reappeared at the Italian Opera in Paris, where Madame Merle Lablache has made her debut; also Signor Sterbini, a new baritone, and Signor Baragli.

—The Portland *Argus* says that "an infant child was placed in a band-box by an inhuman mother, and left on the door-step of one of our citizens Saturday evening. A boy, 'indifferently honest' passing by concluded he would 'confiscate' said band-box. He seized it and conveyed it home, but great was his horror when he discovered its contents. The 'waif' is alive and kicking, and has been conveyed to the Alms House."

Miscellaneous.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

"Particularly valuable for officers in the Army and travelers."—[Frank Leslie's, Feb. 21.

"Prettiest, best and cheapest timepieces ever offered."—[N. Y. Illustrated News, Jan. 10.

"Very pretty and durable Watches for the Army."—[N. Y. Army and Navy Jour. (Government organ), Aug. 29.

"One of the oldest and most reliable houses in business."—[Louisville (Ky.) Journal, July 28.

MAGIC TIME OBSERVERS

Being a Hunting or Open Face, or Lady's or Gentleman's Watch combined, with Patent Self-Winding Improvement, a most pleasing Novelty.

ONE OF THE PRETTIEST,

[illegible]

SILVER WATCHES!

First-class Hunting Time-Pieces for accuracy of movement, beauty of material, and, above all, cheapness in price, these Watches must insure universal approbation.

[illegible]

ORDER FROM THE

HUBBARD BROTHERS, IMPORTERS,

171 Broadway, corner Courtlandt [illegible]

NEW YORK.

FLORENCE

SEWING MACHINE[S]

The only Machine making more than one kind of Stitch.

IT MAKES THE

LOCK OR SHUTTLE STITCH

IT MAKES THE

DOUBLE LOCK STITCH.

IT MAKES THE

KNOT STITCH.

IT MAKES THE

DOUBLE KNOT STITCH.

Every machine has the celebrated REVERSIBLE FEED, which enables the operator to fasten Ends of Seams, or to sew from Left to Right, or Right to Left. All the above superior points of excellence are [illegible]

EASILY MANAGED.
RUNS QUIET.
PRACTICAL HEMMER.
HANDSOME TABLE.
FOUR STITCHES.

Each machine is furnished with one of

Barnum's Celebrated Self-Sewers.

Every Machine Fully Warrante[d]

Call and examine this triumph of

Sewing Mechanism.

WM. H. SHARP & CO.

GENERAL AGENTS,

124 Lake Street, Chicago, Illino[is]

NIGHT OPENING.

PIANOS BY GASLIGHT.

As there are doubtless many who would like to sel[ect] a splendid

STEINWAY

(UNEQUALLED AMONG PIANOS,)

Or other fine instrument as a most appropriate [illegible]

FROM WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23d,
UNTIL THURSDAY, DEC. 31st, inclu[sive]
until 9 o'clock P. M.

Notwithstanding large sales, we trust that our stock and daily arrivals will enable us to suit all who may favor us with a call.

SMITH & NIXON,
201 South Clark Stre[et]
And Fourth Street Cincinnati.

1863. Fall Trade. 1863.

RAWSON & BARTLETT,

Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in

BOOTS AND SHOE[S]

30 Lake street, Chicago, Ill.

We are now offering to the trade one of the larg[est] and BEST SELECTED stocks ever brought to [this] market.

Having determined to make our BUSINESS, CA[SH] ONLY, we will agree to sell our goods

As Low as can be Bought

In this or any other market. Eastern bills freely [dupli]cated. We make a SPECIALTY of EXTRA SIZE[S] goods, a large assortment of which we now have [on] hand.

RAWSON & BARTLETT.

DEAN & SMEAL,

Blank Book Manufacture[rs]

AND

BOOK BINDERS.

Particular attention paid to binding SHEET MUS[IC] [illegible]

148 LAKE STREET, Up Stairs.

OPERA GLASSES,

Stereoscopes or Pictures,

Microscopes,

Magic Lanterns, etc., etc.,

In greatest variety, have just arrived in time fo[r the] Holidays, at the Store of

JAMES FOSTER, Jr., & CO.

OPTICIANS,

44 Clark street, near Sherman Ho[use].

W. FORSYTH & CO.,

[illegible] and 44 Nassau street, New York, [illegible]

[illegible]

LALLEMAND'S

RHEUMATISM,

Gout and Neuralgi[a]

SPECIFIC.

J. H. REED & CO.

Wholesale Druggists,

NO. 146 LAKE STREET,

Agents for Chicago.

FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS GENERALLY.

Price $1.00 per Bottle.

SCOTT, KEEN & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

FINE CLOTHING,

Officer's Uniforms,

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS,

FURNISHING GOODS,

Trunks, Traveling Bags and Valises,

136 LAKE STREET.

PARIAN AND BRONZE GOODS.

LARGE STOCK.

New Patterns, First Quality and Low Prices.

GALE BROTHERS, Druggists, 22 Randolph street.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

146 Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

ALSO, DEAL LARGELY IN

Paints, Oils, Window Glass, Glassware, Burning Oils, Kerosene, Soapmakers' Stock, Manufacturers' Goods, &c.,

Which we offer at prices favorable to Western Merchants and Manufacturers.

HOGS, HOGS,

HOGS!

The undersigned would inform their customers and all persons shipping to this market, that they have increased facilities this season for handling

LIVE AND DRESSED HOGS!

[illegible]

JOHN M. WILLIAMS,

WHOLESALE GROCER,

12 South Water Street.

[illegible]

Railroads.

1863. [illegible] 1863.

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL R. R.

[illegible] Double Track.

In order to keep pace with the demands of the traveling public, [illegible]

THREE DAILY TRAINS FROM

PITTSBURGH TO PHILADELPHIA,

(With close connections from Western Cities.)

[illegible]

SEVEN DAILY TRAINS FROM

PHILADELPHIA TO NEW YORK.

Tickets for sale to Boston by boat or rail. [illegible] New York and Baltimore.

Baggage checked through and transferred free.

FREIGHTS.

[illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

[illegible]

Express Lines.

NEW FREIGHT EXPRESS LINE.

PLATTSMOUTH, GLENWOOD, COUNCIL BLUFFS & EDDYVILLE.

The undersigned have established a Team Line from and to the above points, and will carry freight via

BURLINGTON AND MISSOURI RIVER,

AND

Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroads,

At the below given rates per 100 pounds, until Nov. 1st, 1863.

[illegible]

Be particular and mark packages via
"BURLINGTON AND EDDYVILLE."

For further information apply to G. F. HENDRIE & CO., Council Bluffs; TOOTLE & HANNA, Plattsmouth; [illegible]

G. F. HENDRIE & CO.

For the Army.

NOTICE TO ENROLLED MEN.

Persons who have been enrolled for the coming draft will be received into the United States Navy until Jan. 5th, 1864,

To Serve for One Year,

[illegible]

RECRUITS FOR

OLD REGIMENTS.

Veteran Volunteers, $400 Bounty and Premium.

All other Recruits, $302 Bounty and Premium.

[illegible]

MEN OF ILLINOIS,

[illegible]

Sewing Machines.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Happy New Year.

[illegible]

New York prices—No charge for Freight.

L. CORNELL & CO.,
General Agents, 104 Lake street.

MERCHANT TAILORS—Have you seen the

No. 3 Empire Sewing Machine?

THE NEW PATENT SHUTTLE?

[illegible]

Tax Notice.

IMPORTANT TO TAX PAYERS.

[illegible]

Lead and Oil Works.

CHICAGO LEAD AND OIL WORKS.

E. W. BLATCHFORD, PROPRIETOR,

Cor. Clinton and Fulton Sts.,

MANUFACTURE

Lead Pipe, Sheet Lead, Bar Lead, LINSEED OIL AND OIL CAKE.

[illegible]

BOILED LINSEED OIL.

[illegible]

TERMS CASH.

E. W. BLATCHFORD.

ARCHITECTURE.—J. F. L[illegible]

[illegible]

Chicago Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1868.

THE CITY.

CHRISTMAS.—The Post Office will close today at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the day. The Custom House will be closed during the entire day.

CHRISTMAS AT THE ARSENAL.—We subscribe for the honor of our brethren in the Arsenal at Camp Douglas to-day. A finer dinner of beef is seldom if ever seen than that which will grace their tables.

ENLISTMENTS OF THE 50TH ILLINOIS.—The enlistments of the 50th (Second Board of Trade) regiment have been received, and will be paid on to-morrow afternoon at 1 o'clock, at room No. 5 Court House.

RECRUITING FOR COLORED REGIMENTS.—Lewis Isbell yesterday recruited five colored men in Chicago, who were mustered in immediately and received the bounty. Applications from the city and county, the same as white recruits. Colored men need no longer to stand to come forward; they will be equally well treated as others in all respects. There is no need of going outside of Illinois for recruitment and bounty; they will be gladly welcomed as a help to the quota of Cook county.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME.—The day, with its festivities and social enjoyments, naturally suggests extending a kindly hand to these individual and enterprises which stand in need of our generous assistance. While we sit in our pleasant homes and enjoy our luxurious dinners, let us not forget the necessities of those of our brave boys, who, while defending their country, have received wounds which will necessitate their support by the country they have served. The permanent Home for disabled soldiers is an enterprise which deserves our liberal aid, and it is hoped that this will not be forgotten to-day. T. B. Bryan, Esq., President of the Home will be happy to receive donations for this object.

KILLED ON THE RAILROAD.—Acting Coroner Summerfield held an inquest yesterday on the body of an unknown man. Apparently an Indian, and supposed to have belonged to the company of Indian soldiers now in Camp Douglas. He was found lying on the track of the St. Louis & Alton road, at its intersection with Archer Road. The legs and one arm were entirely severed from the body, and were lying at some distance from the trunk, which was badly mutilated. The man had been steady built, with large features. He had probably been to Bridgeport, and having imbibed too freely of whisky, had laid down to rest on the track, and been cut in two by the mutiny train, the wheels of which were found all bedabbled in blood. The jury returned a verdict of "killed on the railroad."

FIFTH JURY FOR THE JANUARY TERM OF THE RECORDER'S COURT.—The following persons were drawn yesterday morning in open Court, to serve as Petit Jurors during the January term of the Recorder's Court. There was a regular venire for a Grand Jury issued for the next term; should the exigency of the occasion demand one, a special Grand Jury will be summoned at the commencement of the term:

Andrew Sullivan, J. L. Metzger, James Price, Washington Smith, John L. Walsh, Russell Green, Patrick Loftus, Thomas Phillips, A. Cook, John Kennedy, W. Simpson, F. H. Crosby, W. O. George, John Pilgrim, William Bogue, Henry Butler, W. D. Boughtwhiling, A. J. Galloway, Nathan Morgan, Adam Lehr, Anthony Berghan, William Goggins, Andrew Geary, H. W. Chamberlain.

THE BLUE ISLAND AVENUE CARS.—The public will be very glad to know that the Horse Railroad on Halsted street and Blue Island avenue has at last become a fixed fact. The cars commenced running at noon yesterday, and will run every half hour, from the corner of State and Randolph streets, via Madison, to Twelfth. The track on Milwaukee avenue has also been laid for three quarters of a mile, and the work will go on as fast as the state of the ground will admit. The cars for that road are also nearly ready.

The South and West Division Railway Companies have, after a through trial, become satisfied that mules won't answer their purposes, and they are now disposing of them, and buying good horses instead. Judge Pullar, of the South Side Company, has already purchased thirty-six fresh, strong horses.

ARRESTED FOR DEFRAUDING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.—Frank R. Marshall, who figured somewhat above in the case of Capt. Hynes vs. Rainsford & Marshall, which was, at the time, fully reported in the columns of the TRIBUNE, was arrested yesterday on the charge of defrauding the United States Government by means of a forged receipt. The defendants, F. R. Marshall and W. H. Rainsford, were charged with having signed the name of Captain Hynes to a receipt for pay at Springfield. The former suit was brought by Captain Hynes, and Mr. Marshall was honorably acquitted, the Prosecuting Attorney—Col. Dorsey—declaring that there was not the slightest ground upon which to apply for a conviction. Rainsford was held to bail in $400 to answer to the charge in a higher Court. The present action is brought by the Government.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A SOLDIER.—About 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, a discharged soldier, from the 9th Kentucky volunteers, named Peter Crowe, who was on his way to the Marine Hospital stopped into Peter Shank's saloon, on College Grove avenue, near 26th street, and as he sat down remarked: "It is hard for a soldier to be sick, with no home to go to and friends to care for him." He complained of being quite unwell—asked for a glass of cider, which was given him. He drank perhaps one-third of the cider, and asked to go to the back yard. After he had been gone some minutes, one of the family, who was at supper, noticed that he had fallen down in the back building, and a man was sent out to his assistance. He was found unable to stand upright, and died almost immediately. Justice Hanna held the inquest, but no jury failed to ascertain the cause of his death. He rendered a verdict accordingly. We understand no post mortem examination was made.

ALLEGED MURDER.—The readers of the TRIBUNE will recollect our report of the arrest of a military officer by the Provost Marshal of this city on a charge of murder. The name of the officer is Lieut. C. Sander, for eight years a resident of Chicago, who left this city in December, 1861, as second Lieutenant in the Marine Artillery. The succeeding February he was made a Captain in the First Regiment of North Carolina volunteers, and went off on a scouting expedition, in the course of which the man alleged to have been murdered was captured, and, it is said, killed by order of a drum head court martial, condemned and shot. The news at Elizabeth City, in North Carolina, the friends say that he reported at the date of the alleged murder, confirms it, was accepted. He resigned in June last, being already brevetted Major, at the time as judge on court-martial. He will be taken to Camp Douglas to-day, and thence transported to North Carolina. If he finds clear, that the whole charge is a mistake or a malicious prosecution, we prefer to have no fears as to the result of an official investigation into his case.

PRESIDENT'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION—ROBYN'S INJUSTICE.—We have announced, the sale of the original manuscript of the President's Emancipation Proclamation is now in the hands of the engraver, and will soon be issued by the managers of the Soldier's Home, who have the sole control of the original document, as well as the publication and sale of all fac-similes thereof. Complaints have been made that persons were about the city yesterday, selling at $1.50 each, copies of a paper purported to be this genuine fac-simile, and who state that the receipts go to the Soldiers' Home.

The genuine issue has not been completed yet, and not one offered for sale by any person. Hence those persons who are offering what they represent as the genuine fac-similes, for sale, are doubtless imposing upon the citizens colored are a catchpenny humbug, which the Soldier's Home has nothing to do with. The publication of the genuine fac-similes will be announced in the TRIBUNE, and statements who have them for sale in the city will be able to show a bona fide statement, bearing testimony of their connection with the Soldier's Home.

AMUSEMENTS.

There will be no difficulty in finding an abundance of amusements this afternoon and evening. The difficulty will be to decide where to go. We will endeavor to enlighten our readers so that they will have the subject before them, and can make up their decision from the data.

McVICKER'S THEATRE.—There is a splendid bill offered at this popular place of amusement. Other will do her share, "and more too," in her popular representation of the French Spy, in which she has gained distinguished reputation. The French Spy will be followed by the popular farce of Mr. and Mrs. White. On Saturday, there will be two performances—afternoon and evening—the latter for the benefit of Cobas, and her last appearance, when she will appear in the French Spy and Flying Dutchman. In the afternoon, she will appear in the Wizard Skiff. Cobas has added much to the popularity of this popular theatre during her present engagement, and we trust her friends will evince their respect for her talents, by a crowded house on Saturday evening.

BOOTH'S HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE.—There will be three performances at the Christian Circus to-day, at 10 a. m., 2½ p. m., and 8 o'clock in the evening. The entire performance of Charmed Jewels, between Robinson, La Petite Angela, Miss Lizzie Donaldson, Mr. and Mrs. Castello, Davenport, Ayers and other well known favorites will appear. The great holiday entertainment of "Jack the Giant Killer," will conclude each performance.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Arlington, Lent & Dunlap's Ethiopian Opera Troupe give a capital entertainment this evening, just suited for holidays, at their new Opera House, on Washington street.

HOOLEY'S.—Christian Hooley, in all his phases, will be in full force on Saturday day and evening at the Museum. The attractions by this date gives entrance to the Museum.

"THE PRISON."—Walter Emery's Old Folks give their popular entertainment at Bryan Hall, and the Old Folks of their best attributes, the Old Folks, in the character of the attributes on these occasions, which will be well for the friends and patrons of the performance of Chicago. Boyhood ought to be filled tonight.

ROBINSON'S.—Robinson will do two performances to-day, the Victorian, one in the afternoon, and one in the evening for children and their parents, and one in the evening for children. The bill is an attractive one, and will, no doubt, draw a crowded.

BRYAN FARES.—All those of the Skating Pond in Washington, Central and Ogden—will be open for the day and evening. In the evening the place will be lighted with its standards to the extent the cases. Of course, every one will be filled with joyous skaters.

LECTURES BY "GRACE GREENWOOD."—Mrs. Appleton, of Philadelphia, (Grace Greenwood,) the gifted, intense and popular authoress will give two lectures in this city on the evenings of the 14th and 15th of January, for the benefit of the "Old Soldiers' Home." The first lecture will be entitled "Footprints of Famous Men." The second will be a lecture of Society and Literary Reminiscences." The second will be her very best effort, which is so highly spoken of by the Philadelphia papers, as a lecture of the War Capital. The sale of tickets will be given in Bryan Hall, which, of course, will be probably larger than the occasion shall require.

THE RECORDER'S COURT.

Sentencing the Prisoners—Punishment of Mischievous Office-Seekers.

The prisoners convicted of, or pleading guilty to, the commission of crimes, during the December term of the Recorder's Court, were called yesterday to receive sentence. There were eighteen sinners against the law ranged in the dock, varying in age from the hoary-headed old man, painfully bent in the direction of the grave, to the juvenile offender, the young to be sent to the penitentiary. They were brought up in the following order:

John Gaunt, a German man and a railroad employee, charged with selling stolen goods to the value of $6 from a trunk in the depot, was severely talked to about the enormity of the crime he had committed, and was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

Michael, alias William Donahue, a white-haired man, convicted of stealing a quantity of flannel, mentioned by the jury to one year in the penitentiary, in the penitentiary. The prisoner pleaded that he had only been in the city three years when arrested, had never been in trouble before, and was not guilty of the crime; his plea did not avail.

Ellen Hayes, a middle aged woman, convicted of stealing property from a wholesale store, was told that her crime was one of the most shameless prevalence, that she had evidently gone there with the settled purpose of stealing; she was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

John Lawrence, a German unable to understand a word of English, was in a pitiable state of mind, easily operated to him rather equivocal kindness, furnished with an interpreter, who translated to the prisoner the sentence of the Court, that he be imprisoned two years.

Mary Brown, a good looking girl under 18 years of age, but with the marks of dissipation stamped deeply on her features, had pleaded guilty to the charge of larceny. She was sent for ninety days to the City Bridewell.

James McGuire, indicted for highway robbery, a young but particularly hard looking man, received a sentence of five years imprisonment. The Court expressed his gratification to public officers of this description to the full extent allowed by law.

Jessie A. Reeves, found guilty of larceny from the family with whom she had lived as a domestic, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

William Gray, a colored boy who had pleaded guilty to a charge of larceny, assured the Court that he was innocent and under age. He was sent to the Bridewell for six months.

John Harris, a good looking mulatto. He had been found guilty of breaking into a barber's shop and stealing therefrom a number of articles, collectively of small value, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Peter Foster, a tall young man, found guilty of having stolen numerous articles of value from guests at the Tremont House, while acting as confidential servant there, was sentenced to the penitentiary for one year.

William A. Kenneth, a man who looked as if the penitentiary had been home his home, was sentenced to three years imprisonment, with the remark that advice would be lost upon him.

Frank Conway, a large well looking fellow of eighteen years of age, was then brought up for sentence on a complaint of burglary. His counsel moved to suspend sentence for thirty days, and give the prisoner an opportunity to enlist. The Court replied that he could not consider such a request, as some of the most daring burglaries had been committed by men who, if enlisted, would be protected. He was sent down to Joliet for one year.

Ann Ryan, a woman of 35 years of age, found guilty of the larceny of $50 in bank bills, professed innocent of the crime, and said that she was drunk, but was consoled with the remark that sorrow for the offence, if any, would be with sorrow for its punishment. One year's imprisonment.

Mary Clay, stout girl, came up smiling to receive sentence. She was indicted jointly with Ellen Little's parent sale—yes to select two men, and 1 to select two, and then to choose the fifth person, who shall have full power to investigate and settle the question as to who has the best safe. They shall examine the construction of our respective Safes and Locks in use and in store, test them by fire, one or more as they please, as now made; test the Burglar Proof qualities as well as the Burglar Proof qualities or demerits; examine the construction of all claims or degrees of burglar and fire proof combined, and their actual depreciation in value and decay; make out their report in full, embracing every important item of information and interest to the public, and set forth distinctly and unmistakably who has the best Burglar and Combined Burglar and Fire Proof Safe; which the decision neither party shall controvert or take any exception thereto. One thousand dollars shall be placed in the hands of said Commission, to be used by party—to defray all expenses, except the safes tested, which each shall furnish as required, and the balance shall be expended in advertising said report to the public.

Agent for Lillie's Safes and Locks, 58 Dearborn street, Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24, 1868.

To Mr. A. L. Wilms:

SIR: In this morning's TRIBUNE I notice a communication over your signature addressed to myself in which you say that I "have paid for sundry advertisements in the TRIBUNE, intended to reflect upon the reputation of Lillie's Safes, and that the statements made are either exaggerations or entire misstatements.

Without admitting or denying the charge of paying for the insertion of those advertisements referred to, and I be permitted to ask you in what other way has the Lillie Safe ever gained a notoriety or reputation but by the manufacturer or his agents taking the course you complain of in your communication, and in this view of the case do you not see the trunk of the old adage, that "curses, like young chickens, always come home to roost," or have seen sundry advertisements of late in the TRIBUNE which state the Lillie Safe to be untrustworthy in consequence of its contents being destroyed in fights in my possession obtained from other sources, and did produce others of similar character. I find no inconvenience in any statement which you or any other party may make, and consequently ask no relief from it. As to the "tested merit" of the American Safe and its "short career," allow me to say that its career has been long enough to demonstrate it to be worthless. It has passed through several accidental fires and has never been found wanting, sufficiently so that my numerous customers, and I trust the public, are satisfied and prefer them to any other safe.

Having in this preference and demand, I am unable to procure a full stock, and I have now $15,000 sales made to arrive; and with this fact in view, I do not see why the business man should take so a fool to engage in a controversy which would call in the destruction of property (the demand for which exceeds the supply), merely to demonstrate a truth already demonstrated.

In conclusion, is not the demand, the increasing popularity and the immense sale of "The Great American Safe" more than a fair test?

Respectfully yours, F. W. PRATT,
Agent for the Great American Safe, No. 13 Lasalle street, Chicago.

☞ Do not forget the grand matinee at the Central Park this afternoon.

MASONIC.—At the regular annual Communication of Cleveland City Lodge, No. 161, A. F. and A. M., held in Masonic Hall, Cleveland, on the evening of Dec. 22d, 1868, the following officers were elected: W. W. Winters, W. M.; S. J. Hayes, S. W.; W. A. Stevens, J. W.; W. H. Purdy, Treas.; T. J. Bloss, Sec.; W. T. Morse, S. D.; S. K. Oso, Junior Steward, Gierwinde; J. P. Hatfield, Tiler.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE TREMONT HOUSE.—We acknowledge the usual invitation from Messrs. Gage & Drake, to their Christmas Dinner at the Tremont House.

PERSONAL.—Col. Wood, the popular agent of the Black Swan is stopping at the Tremont House.

Correspondence.

To Mr. F. W. Pratt:

DEAR SIR: As you have paid for the insertion of several anonymous notices and advertisements, in the TRIBUNE, intended to reflect upon the reputation of Lillie's Patent Safes, I address you, and say to you and the public that the statements you have made are either exaggerations or entire misstatements, and show but a sample of the unprincipled competition I have met with from you in the safe trade.

When I cannot find merit enough in my own safes to sell them, I will abandon the trade and not resort to discrediting your safes to effect my sales. I can offer you no relief from the inconvenience which you seem to find in competing with the established reputation of Lillie's Patent Safes and Locks. But as your "American" Safe has had too short a career to boast of tested merit, I now propose to give you an opportunity to show my superiority in my possess, and I hereby challenge you to a public test of its contents, and the contents of your safe, with Lillie's patent safe—yes to select two men, and 1 to select two, and then to choose the fifth person, who shall have full power to investigate and settle the question as to who has the best safe. They shall examine the construction of our respective Safes and Locks in use and in store, test them by fire, one or more as they please, as now made; test the Burglar Proof qualities as well as the Burglar Proof qualities or demerits; examine the construction of all claims or degrees of burglar and fire proof combined, and their actual depreciation in value and decay; make out their report in full, embracing every important item of information and interest to the public, and set forth distinctly and unmistakably who has the best Burglar and Combined Burglar and Fire Proof Safe; which decision neither party shall controvert or take any exception thereto. One thousand dollars shall be placed in the hands of said Commission, to be used by party—to defray all expenses, except the safes tested, which each shall furnish as required, and the balance shall be expended in advertising said report to the public.

A. L. WILMS.

LOCAL MATTERS.

MUSICAL INTELLIGENCE.—Some little sensation has been created in Chicago music circles by the arrival among us, to remain as a permanent resident, of a pianist of the highest order in Mr. Florence Ringfold, a gentleman, is here just from the Conservatorium of Music in Leipzig, who comes bringing the best testimonials of his skill, and letter from Mr. Moscheles, in which he is literally "at his fingers' ends" that music has in him a favorite disciple. A number of our citizens were present yesterday afternoon on an occasion when Mr. Ringfold's powers were hardly called out.

The place was perhaps the best chosen that could be found in the city outside a public hall, as Reed's Temple of Music in McCormick's marble building, which, from size and arrangements, secures all the desired acoustic qualities generally denied to smaller rooms, this being in reality three rooms connected with each other in a manner as to meet both on Dearborn and Randolph streets, and which in size can easily accommodate several hundred people. The instrument was a Chickering's Grand Piano, which is universally esteemed among its fellows, and on this occasion could be heard and compared with other elegant and favorite instruments, performances of seven or eight different makers, and in twenty or more different styles, all on sale by Mr. Reed, thus furnishing the public with rare chances to select an instrument, either for private use or for the use of a theatre, or John McNeil or Ernest Gabler, or the United States Piano Forte makers, and others of wide reputation.

Thus located, and with such surroundings, Mr. Zeigfeld set down to his Chickering, and for the ten minutes held his listeners spell-bound with a masterly exhibition, of which Thalberg himself might not feel ashamed, when the last sounds swelled and floated throughout the recessed halls, the audience scattered here and there among the instruments, studying perhaps a holiday purchase of a piano or accordeon, or monitor organ, or music box, or guitar, or harp, or convertible, and gathered hushed listeners to the great Chickering, which stood in the centre.

Mr. Reed, who has been twenty-five years in this branch of business, both as a manufacturer and dealer, knows well that a piano house needs space, elegant surroundings, and appointments, and that, to sell, it must be in a quiet slumbering church. The stranger pianist just located here, and with Mr. Reed, will prove every way an acquisition to the cause of music in this city. The Temple of Music has a fitting priest in Florence Ringfold.

GRAND BAZAAR AND EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.—The Bazaar and Entertainment will be held at Metropolitan Hall, on Dec. 28, and 29, under the auspices of the Seminary of the Sacred Heard, to aid in the erection of an Industrial School. The Entertainment will be as follows: Grand Overture, Grand Dramatic Opening for Concert, for which some of the best talent in the city are engaged. Tuesday evening, Dec. 29th—Beautiful Tableaux Vivants. Wednesday evening Tableaux Vivants, &c. &c. Entertainments will be given on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, for the amusement of children.

The Fancy Tables will exhibit an elegant assortment of rich embroidery; valuable articles of ladies', gents,' and children' wearing apparel; magnificent sets of silver ware, Chinese vases, etc., etc., all of which will be offered for sale at extremely low prices.

PHILLIPS' BATTERY.—His many friends will be glad to learn that Capt. C. J. Phillips has returned to the city, on recruiting service, and is in most excellent health, as were all the Battery boys were when he left at Camp Nelson, Ky. This Battery has been on duty in Kentucky since it left here—at Carter Station, two battles, at Blue Springs, at Bluetville, Rogersville, &c. Capt. Phillips was Chief of Artillery, 23d Army Corps at the siege of Knoxville, but two deaths have occurred (and two missing) in all the battles and skirmishes engaged in by the Battery since it went to the field. Captain Phillips has opened a recruiting office at No. 79 Dearborn street, next door north of McNally's Bookstore, where he offers the usual liberal bounty to a limited number who may wish to join the Battery. He writes us a very fine man, and those who would "come in out of the draft," and be members of this famous Battery, should apply soon.

CHRISTMAS AND THE ORPHANS.—There are now forty-eight friendless and homeless orphan children at the Protestant Orphan Asylum, on Michigan avenue, near the corner of Twenty-second street, and it is proposed to give them a treat to-morrow, at which time all charitable and benevolent people are requested to send all the donations they can, and be in attendance personally. It is desired to have a meeting of the friends of the institution and of the poor orphans on that day, to consider measures to be adopted for helping them more effectually in the future.

In the midst of the many benevolent objects that our good people have been called upon to aid, recently, this Orphan Asylum, which is, in fact, doing a vast amount of good in a quiet but very effective way, has been too much overlooked. Let the holiday season inaugurate a new era for this noble charity. Even second-hand clothing, and provisions, fuel, or anything that will go to give comfort to the children and support to the institution, will be acceptable.

A WORTHY EXAMPLE.—The officers of the American Express Company, with their usual liberality, are going to feast their employees to-day. Some of the principal men in their employ receive a fat turkey, and the unmarried men have a dinner at Kinsley's. Some deserve a good Christmas dinner, and among those who carry so many of the good things of the day to others.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE—PRESENTATION TO COLLECTOR HAYES.—The employees of the Custom House, to the number of one hundred and fifty, waited on the Sub-Collector, and were joined by a few friends from the other public departments. A deputation was sent to require the presence of Collector Hayes. On his arrival he was greeted by the Deputy Collector, T. J. Kinsella, who in a most every highly complimentary of the personal and official character of the recipient, presented him with an elegant set of silver ware, the selection of J. H. Shaw, 117 Lake street. On the principal piece was the following inscription:

"Presented to Lucius Hayes, Collector of Customs, by the Sub-Collector and Employees of the Custom House, Chicago, December, 1868."

Mr. Hayes briefly responded, accepting the gift.

THE SCHOOLS OF COOK COUNTY.

Interesting Statistics—Schools—Attendance—Finances—Standing and Salaries of the Teachers.

Few persons have any idea of the magnitude of the educational system in Cook county. In the city an annual exhibit is published which enables one to keep track of the work done, and mark its progress. The county, meanwhile, outside of the city, is but little thought of, and even those who live in the towns outside of Chicago know little of the vast powers lodged by the teacher, or the number attending school. The following report is compiled from the records of John F. Eberhart, the School Commissioner for Cook county; it comprises, of course, the statistics only of that portion of the county which lies outside of Chicago:

SCHOOLS.

Number of schools in the country, with the Districts	156
Number of districts	156
Districts in which no schools are kept	22
Graded schools	22
Private schools	20
School houses	137
Schools created during the year	6

The average time these schools have been open is eight and a half months.

ATTENDANCE.

Scholars in private schools	6,870
Scholars between the ages of five and twenty-one years of age	10,000
Whites between 5 and 21	10,000
Male pupils	12,020
Female do	12,120
Total attendance	24,140
Pupils under six years of age	3,020
Average daily attendance	20

FINANCES.

Districts with outstanding debt	71
Do. having a surplus in treasury	317
Acres of school lands unsold	5,000
Am't of State and county fund received	$21,020
Principal of school fund	1,000
Interest on do. paid in	19,200
Received from special district taxes	101,200
Total received from all sources	$175,779
Outstanding district debts	$28,000
Surplus in treasury belonging to districts	16,013
Received of county fund	2,203.37
Interest on do. do. do.	1,000
Paid for school house sites and grounds	6,000
Paid for building new school houses	3,000
Paid for repairs and improvements	18,000
Paid for furniture	3,000
Paid for apparatus	300
Paid for fuel and other incidentals	25,000
Paid to township officers and others	1,000
Total expended	$170,519

TEACHERS.

Male teachers	138
Female do	208
Teachers who have taught less than one year	96
Do. one and less than two	41
Do. two and less than three	14
Do. three and less than four	14
Longest term any one has taught, years	7
Scholars in Normal School	8

CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

The whole number of certificates granted during the year has been 347, thus distributed into three grades:

Grades.	First.	Second.	Third.	Total.
Males	19	33	5	57
Females	90	202	55	197
Total				227

SALARIES.

Highest monthly pay to males	$120
Do. to female teachers	75
Lowest paid to males	17
Do. to females	20
Average monthly pay to males	35.40
Do. to females	17.50

The number of whole townships in the county is 34; there are 8 fractional townships; making in all 42.

We regret that want of space prevents the publication of more ample statistics, or comparisons of those here furnished with the labors of former years.

Soldiers' Home.

The following are the arrivals at the Soldiers' Home, No. 46 Randolph street, during the past twenty-four hours:

Lincoln—O. B. Brooks, K, 6th; J. S. Saper, I, 78th.

Iowa—J. Y. James, I, 8d cav; F. M. Morris, B, 1st cav; J. Ryan, E, 4th; W. Ryan, A, 4th; C. W. Hill, C, 4th; C. Dickerson, H, 31st; E. Chapman, H, 31st; J. Hamilton, I, 36th.

Illinois—R. D. Mussey, F, 8th.

Wisconsin—D. Haney, B, 7th; F. R. Northrop, B, 9th; Thos. Cox, A, 1st cav; J. Ryan, E, 1st; E. Fuller, D, do; W. Morehouse, O, do; R. E. Gray, A, do.

Michigan—C. R. Rensline, G, 1st M. S. S.; S. Wightman, I, do; L. C. Jameson, A, 16th U. S. Inf; B. D. Gardner, A, do.

Kansas—J. Joslin, B, 8th.

Annual Commission—J. Turner, B, 1st; W. H. Parks, K, 16th; J. McKinnon, D, 16th; D. Rundum, E, ditto.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

Record of Cases in the Different City Courts.

U. S. CIRCUIT COURT.—Before Hon. Thos. Drummond, Judge.

681. Wm. Parks, Default and judgt.

684. Worthington vs. White. Time to plead extended to 1st day of January, on motion of defendant.

519 Foster vs. Durand. Default and judgt.

595. Bailey, Jr., vs. Jones et al. Leave given to amend Mar in the plea.

651. (Chancery)—Smith vs. Johnson et al. Time for defendant to answer extended to the 1st Monday in January.

618. (Chancery)—Penno et al. vs. Fuller et al. On mo. complainant's Solicitor referred to Moulton, master, examine defendants on usual terms.

626. (Chancery)—Dicky vs. Whitney et al. Order, Settled, costs paid and dismissed.

140. Kotchian vs. McKinney et al. Dis. on mo. complainant's Solicitor.

677. Price vs. Miller. Dis. on mo. plaintiff's attorney.

682. (Chancery)—Bliss et al. vs. Merick et al. Partnership name and assets ordered removed.

622. Kellogg vs. Hardenbaugh. Motion affidavit filed to verify witness Adams' fee allowed and reduced one half.

(B). Post vs. Walker. Mo. for a new trial overruled.

628. Walworth vs. Thaldrych. Same order.

611. (Admiralty)—Ward et al. vs. Hopkins et al. Further arguments heard and taken under advisement.

Jury ordered for January 19, 1864.

SUPREME COURT—Before Hon. Jas. E. Gray, Justice.

576—Green et al. vs. Twombly. Proof pub. &c., and defendant.

138—Malvin use etc vs. Arnold et al. Rule on dafts to plead or demur by 1st day of next term.

179—Higgins vs. Adams et al. Dis. P. C. on mo. plfs. atty.

194—Myers vs. Rankin et al. Dis. at P. C. by stip's dkt.

SUPREME COURT—Before Hon. Van H. Higgins, in trial term.

194—Gray's of New Mellery vs. Worster et al. Motion to set aside the direction of the Court in directing the jury to find a verdict of not guilty as to Hughes, and for a new trial as to him.

186—Bradley et al. vs. Walker. Motion by deft. to set aside. Judgment overruled.

SUPREME COURT—Before Hon. John M. Wilson, in chancery sitting.

489—Freezing et al. vs. Riedel. Default and decree. Decree for complainants.

370—Blackburn vs. Callahan et al. Motion of complts. atty. for a

42—Boeschen vs. Burgus. Same order.

426—Johnson vs. Harward. Dis. want pros. at costs of plaintiff.

52—Ahlen vs. Franklin et al. Dis. C. C.

72—Kelly vs. Carpenter et al. Dis. C. C. order to dismiss for want of prosecution, as of Oct. 31, 1868.

68—Chapman vs. Chapman. Dis. C. C. without costs.

79—People ex rel. vs. Staggs et al. Dis. as per stip.

72—Higgins et al. vs. Zug et al. Dis. C. C. want pros.

102—Reed et al. vs. Shaver et al. Dis. C. C. counsel pro force, as of May 24, 1868.

104—Adams et al. vs. Ott et al. Dismissed at complt's cost. Dis. C. C.

111—Ashton et al. vs. Ryan et al. Report of commissioners filed and confirmed, and jury awarded to inquire and fix yearly value of premises.

107. Gunsolus et al. vs. Mutual Fire Insurance Co. Continued at complt's agreement, and stipulated to the Court. Issue for plaintiffs, and judgment on finding, $1,000.

Orders, like all cases, motions, &c. now pending, and undetermined stand continued until next term.

In Bankruptcy Court—Before Hon. R. Van Bunkle, Judge.

174. People vs. Bush. Motion for new trial sustained. Bail fixed at $500.

169. People vs. Richard Donohue. Motion for new trial overruled.

178. People vs. Mary Smith alias Kate Jones, Kate Smith alias Mary Jones, and John Williams. Motion for new trial overruled. Williams to five years in the Penitentiary, and Mary Smith one year in the Penitentiary.

176. People vs. James Dooley. Order of continuance vacated, and plea of guilty entered.

175. People vs. Caroline and Coughlin. Sent back to Bridewell by order of Court.

In COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT—Before Hon. E. S. Williams, Judge.

97—Lockenbaugh vs. Burbank. Verdict, defendant guilty of forcible entry, &c. Motion for new trial.

417—(Chancery)—Daniels vs. May & Mach. Bath 11 cases, decree for defendant on the merits, costs of Court and costs in the attorney's fees.

411—(Chancery)—Cornell vs. Mix & Mach. Bath 11 cases, decree for defendant on the merits, costs of Court and costs in the attorney's fees.

Motions for new trial in the following cases, to answer bill as amended by 1st Monday of Feb. next:

397—(Chancery)—Campbell vs. Henry, et al.; By agreement of counsel, motion for leave to put out bill.

398—Aldridge vs. Fry, et al. Motion for a new trial overruled and judgt. on verdict.

41—(Chancery)—Smith vs. Walker, et al. Master's report of sale filed and confirmed.

380—Doherty et al vs. Gallagher. Motion for new trial denied, and judgt. on

Motions for new trial in the following cases:

Jeff. smith vs. Jeff. Smith et al. Same order.

Pull. smith vs. Pull. Smith et al. Same order.

In case of Hall. Bond and bill of exceptions to be filed in 10 days.

Motions for new trial in the following cases:

Wm. Hoop vs. Lord et al. Motion for new trial overruled. Judgt. $184.00.

Wm. Wood et al vs. Sweet. Motion for new trial argued and taken under advisement.

Wm. Wright et al vs. Pearce et al. Motion of Smith of Hall. Same order